

MIT's  
Oldest and Largest  
Newspaper



### The Weather

Today: Cloudy, 65°F (18°C)  
Tonight: Showers, 58°F (14°C)  
Tomorrow: Cloudy, 52°F (11°C)  
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Volume 122, Number 45

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Friday, October 4, 2002

# Coop Removes 'IHTFP' Shirt from Display

By Marissa Vogt  
STAFF REPORTER

A shirt bearing the letters "IHTFP" was recently removed from display at the MIT Coop store in the Student Center after the store manager received a complaint reportedly originating from the Admissions Office.

The shirt was displayed in a highly-visible position in the store window.

"We wanted people to know that we had [the IHTFP shirt]," said store manager Barbara Boyton. "Alumni are always looking for it."

Boyton said that the request came from someone who works in the Student Center who had been approached by a person in the Admissions Office. The "IHTFP" phrase, this person said, represented a different imagine of MIT than they wanted to put forth to prospective students. Because of this, Boyton was asked to remove the shirt from the display.

The shirt was then moved from its position in the store window to a more discreet area toward the back of the store.

Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones did not reply to requests for



MATTHEW BROWN—THE TECH

Melanie I. Worley '06 examines two different IHTFP T-Shirts at the Coop in the Student Center. The acronym is known to have many meanings, and is not endorsed by MIT's administration.

comment.

#### Shirt not licensed by MIT

Merchandise from the Coop bearing the MIT trademark or MIT-

related insignia artwork is produce by manufacturers who have licenses with MIT to make specific products. But because the shirt did not have any specific reference to MIT on it

or any insignia artwork, it did not have to be licensed through the Technology Licensing Office.

Coop, Page 14

# \$50K Competition Holds First Workshop of Year

By Lauren E. LeBon  
STAFF REPORTER

Aspiring entrepreneurs from MIT and the outside community gathered in Walker Memorial for the first major event of the MIT \$50K Entrepreneurship Competition on Wednesday evening. A panel of alumni from the competition

advised this year's hopefuls on how to build a viable team and shared the stories of their companies.

Competition entrants will use meetings like the one on Wednesday night to make contacts, find potential team members, and shape ideas.

"It helps for networking, and

gives food for thought," said Akshay Mohan G, a first-year graduate student at the Media Lab. "They're helpful to introduce you to a social circle with your interests. As time progresses, you will remember these people."

Mohan hopes to participate in a project that will develop low-cost

technology with widespread applications.

Panel members offered different suggestions as to the direction of this year's competition. Five years ago, during the dot-com boom, a majority of entries were Internet-

50K, Page 21

# Survey Results Show Frosh 'Content' with Lottery Picks

By Jenny Zhang

The 2002 freshmen housing lottery questionnaire results showed that 98 percent of students were "content" with their housing situation, according to the Residential System Implementation Team.

After the orientation adjustment lottery, 74 percent of the freshmen were in their first choice dormitory, 19 percent were in their second choice, and 7 percent were in their third.

Freshmen filled out a questionnaire when they entered the summer housing lottery and again when they entered the adjustment lottery at the end of dormitory rush. The questionnaire dealt with the factors that were important to residence selection.

#### Lotteries 'worked well'

The RSIT, which includes Anthony E. Gray, Denise A. Vallay,

and Ricky A. Gresh, evaluated student satisfaction by using the term "content" to label those who either squatted or were reassigned in the Orientation adjustment lottery.

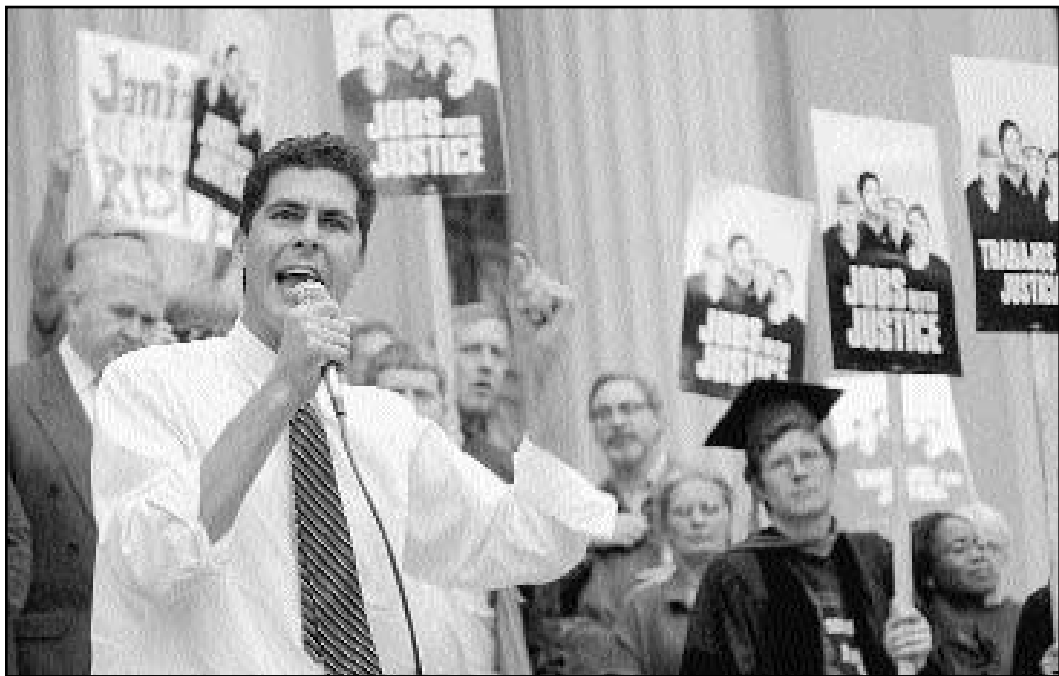
"This is a purely technical term; we don't know anything about any other factors. I have no idea whether they are happy," Gray said regarding classifying students as "content."

According to this definition, 98 percent of the students were content.

Vallay contacted the remaining 2 percent of freshmen who were not reassigned although they requested three dormitories different from their current assignment.

"Five were reassigned, one turned down a reassignment offer, four are on a waiting list, and four didn't request to move," said Vallay.

Housing, Page 18



AARON D. MIHALIK—THE TECH

State Senator Jarrett Barrios speaks at the Justice for Janitors rally held on the steps of 77 Massachusetts Avenue on Thursday.

Jeffrey Hoff is the Class of 2006 President.

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#### OPINION

Jeff Roberts reflects on the newest additions to the residence system.

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# WORLD & NATION

## Lawmaker Accuses CIA Of ‘Obstructionism’ on Iraq

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Sen. Bob Graham (D-Fla.) chairman of the Senate intelligence committee, Thursday accused the CIA of “obstructionism” for failing to provide the panel with crucial intelligence assessments of Iraq in a timely manner.

Graham said the CIA’s foot-dragging had affected committee members’ ability to judge for themselves whether it is time to go to war with Saddam Hussein.

“We’re trying to carry out a very important responsibility, and given the nature of this classified information, we are the only means by which the intelligence community can communicate to the legislative branch of government,” Graham said. “And if they refuse to do so ... then they are effectively shutting down the people who the Constitution says have the responsibility to declare war and support wars and the intelligence operation that wars require.”

At issue are two National Intelligence Estimates, one concerning Iraq’s biological, chemical and nuclear capabilities; the other Iraq’s conventional forces.

## Michigan Infant Infected With West Nile through Breast Milk

THE WASHINGTON POST

Federal health officials have concluded that a Michigan newborn was infected with the West Nile virus through her mother's breast milk, and are investigating how four other babies contracted the disease.

The 40-year-old mother had most likely been infected through a blood transfusion she received six hours after giving birth, the officials said Thursday.

While the Michigan infant has remained healthy despite having the virus, the discovery is considered worrisome because it adds to the number of ways that West Nile virus can be spread — through mosquito bites, blood transfusions, organ transplants and now breastfeeding.

Still, federal officials stressed Thursday that more than 99 percent of West Nile infections come from mosquito bites, and that they still strongly recommend that mothers breastfeed their infants.

Officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also confirmed Thursday that a 55-year-old woman from St. Mary’s County, Md., who tested positive for the West Nile virus died a month after receiving a kidney transplant. The officials said it remained unclear, however, how the woman had gotten the infection.

## Stewart Resigns From New York Stock Exchange Board

NEWSDAY

NEW YORK

Plagued by insider-trading allegations and a blazing media spotlight, style guru Martha Stewart resigned Thursday from the board of the New York Stock Exchange.

Stewart’s resignation came a day after federal prosecutors first outlined a potential insider-trading case against her as part of their indictment of Merrill Lynch broker assistant Douglas Faneuil. He pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge for concealing from investigators what he knew about Stewart’s sale of ImClone Systems Inc. stock last December.

In her resignation letter, Stewart cited the “rigors of my own very busy and demanding corporate life” as reasons for stepping down. A statement released later went further: “I did not want the media attention currently surrounding me to distract from the important work of the NYSE,” said Stewart, herself the chief executive of a large Manhattan-based media company, Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia.

# Resolution on Iraq Advances In Both Houses of Congress

By Janet Hook  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

A measure to give President Bush broad authority to launch an attack on Iraq began to advance Thursday in Congress, as the resolution was approved by a House committee and the Senate opened debate on the issue.

Final votes approving the resolution are expected next week.

But in the Democratic-controlled Senate, Bush’s allies and his adversaries began to spar over how the United States and the international community should respond to what the White House has argued is the threat posed by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and his suspected weapons of mass destruction.

“Today, we begin the process of ensuring that this violent and cruel man can longer menace us, his neighbors and his own people,” Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) said as the debate formally began. “Let there be no mistake, the elimination of the Iraqi threat is essential if we are to win the war on terrorism.”

Some influential Senate Democrats immediately questioned whether Bush has made the case that Iraq poses an imminent threat. They prepared to propose alternative resolutions and to use the debate to focus public attention on the potential risks and costs of Bush’s initiative against Iraq.

“As sure as the sun rises in the east, we are embarking on a course of action with regard to Iraq that, in its haste, is both blind and improvident,” said Sen. Robert C. Byrd (D-W.Va.). “We are rushing into war without fully discussing why, without thoroughly considering the consequences, or without making any attempt to explore what steps we might take to avert conflict.”

But even dissenting Democrats say they expect Bush to prevail in both the House and Senate. “The train left the station,” Sen. Joseph Biden (D-Del.) said.

That much had become clear Wednesday, when the White House and a bipartisan group of congressional leaders endorsed a compromise resolution authorizing Bush to launch a unilateral, preemptive military strike against Iraq if he concludes that diplomatic efforts to deal with Baghdad have proved fruitless.

The compromise would grant Bush the key powers he sought. In return, he agreed to certify to Congress that military action came only after he had exhausted diplomatic options and that an attack on Iraq would not set back ongoing efforts to combat terrorism.

The sense of inevitability about the outcome took some drama out of the Senate debate, which opened in halting fashion Thursday. The debate was delayed and interrupted periodically by consideration of other legislation.

The issue probably will not be joined in earnest until next week, because many lawmakers will be out of town Friday for the funeral of former Rep. Patsy Mink (D-Hawaii).

Neither the compromise resolution nor any alternatives are expected to come to a vote before Tuesday or Wednesday.

Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) did not join other leaders in endorsing the compromise resolution and has said he wants to impose further restrictions on Bush’s warmaking powers. Nonetheless, Daschle tried to open Senate debate on a conciliatory note.

# Court Considers N.J. Election Republicans Urge Court to Block Replacement in Senate Race

By James G. Savage  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Two years after the Supreme Court sided with the Republicans in the disputed presidential race, the justices now must decide whether to intervene on behalf of New Jersey Republicans in a race that could decide which political party controls the Senate.

Lawyers for GOP Senate candidate Doug Forrester urged the Supreme Court Thursday to reverse a ruling of the state’s judges and to block New Jersey Democrats from switching Senate candidates just a month before the election.

It is “fundamentally unfair,” they said, to allow the “party bosses” to bring in a fresh candidate to replace a sure loser.

They also accused New Jersey’s highest court of “amending the law to endorse their partisan manipulation.”

On Monday, Sen. Robert Torricelli (D-N.J.) tainted by scandal and sinking in the polls, announced he was dropping his reelection bid.

A day later, New Jersey’s Democratic leaders chose former Sen. Frank Lautenberg to run in his place.

On Wednesday, the New Jersey Supreme Court ordered that Lautenberg’s name replace Torricelli’s on the state ballot, although the Democrats were ordered to pay \$800,000 to cover the cost.

New Jersey election law describes the procedures for replacing a candidate “in the event of a vacancy, which shall occur not later than the 51st day before the general election.”

The Democrats switched candidates 33 days before the election,

but the state judges upheld the move because it would give the voters “a full and fair ballot choice.”

In a brief opinion, the judges explained that the 51-day rule was intended to further “the orderly administration of an election,” and that an orderly election can be held even with the late switch on the Democratic side.

In their appeal Thursday, the GOP lawyers said the state court decision “threatens to change the face of American politics. Prompt action from this court is required to prevent growing public cynicism regarding even-handed application of election law rules.”

And lest the justices have forgotten, Thursday’s appeal recalls that the U.S. Supreme Court intervened “in very similar cases arising out of election disputes in Florida.”

# WEATHER

## Tropical October

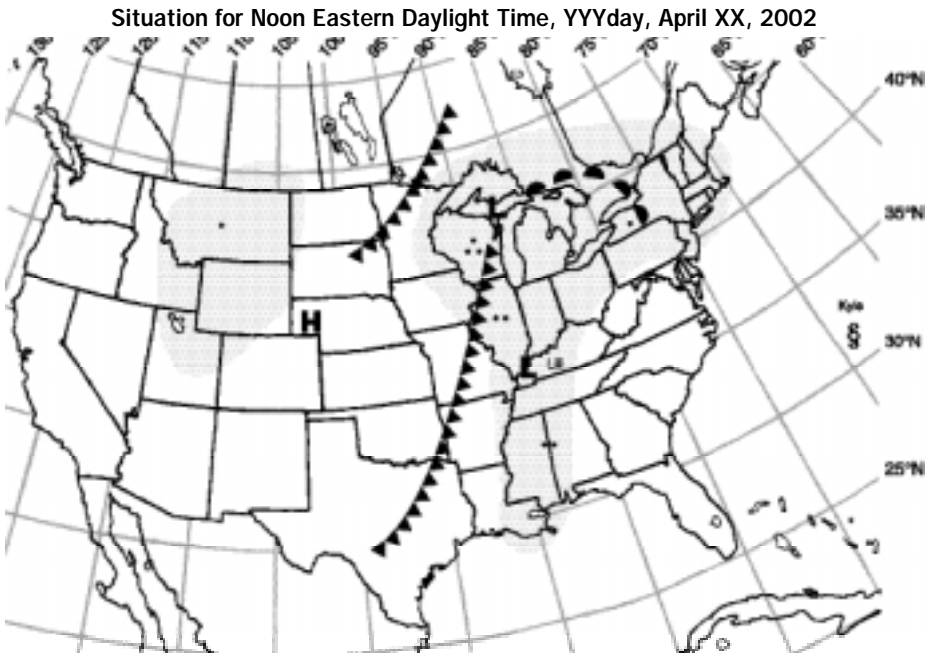
By Samantha Hess

Lili made landfall yesterday at Marsh Island, LA as a Category 2 hurricane with 100 mph winds. She was unpredictable the day before landfall, quickly strengthening to a Category 4 hurricane with top winds of 145 mph, then just as quickly weakening. However, she still caused quite a bit of damage, including snapping trees, destroying roofs, and knocking out power to an estimated 345,000 people in Louisiana. She has also caused massive flooding. Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Kyle is still meandering about the Atlantic Ocean, though he is not expected to threaten land any time soon.

If there were any doubts about the season around here, however, they were cleared up by the cool, damp day we had yesterday. This weekend will be breezy with an occasional shower, though temperatures will be unseasonably mild on Saturday and Sunday.

**Extended Forecast**

**Today:** Cloudy. High 65°F (18°C).  
**Tonight:** Chance of showers. Low 58°F (14°C).  
**Saturday:** Cloudy with chance of showers; humid and breezy. High 74°F (23°C); low 56°F (13°C).  
**Sunday:** Mostly sunny. High 73°F (22°C); low 52°F (11°C).



# FDA Halts Gene Therapy Trials After Patient Develops Disease

By Aaron Zitner  
*LOS ANGELES TIMES*

WASHINGTON

A French boy who had been considered one of the few people cured by gene therapy has developed a leukemia-like disease, prompting the Food and Drug Administration to halt three gene therapy trials in the United States.

It is unclear whether the gene-replacement technique caused the boy's new illness.

Still, the incident threatens to further dampen hopes for gene therapy, which has been under intense scrutiny since the 1999 death of a teenager in a University of Pennsylvania experiment.

In gene therapy, healthy genes

are placed in a patient's cells in an attempt to compensate for the faulty genes that cause disease. The technique is considered one of the most exciting ideas to emerge from the explosion of information about human genes, with prospects for treating cancer, hemophilia, AIDS and other ailments.

The French boy, now 3, had undergone the process as an infant to control "bubble boy disease," a rare immune system disorder that is fatal if untreated.

The boy's immune system rebounded, and he was able to leave a sterile hospital environment — or "bubble" — and live at home. He was one of four boys included in a French study, published this spring,

that is considered the only definitive proof that gene therapy can work.

But in August, doctors found that the boy had developed a leukemia-like illness. It was the first time the illness appeared in any of the 32 or so patients treated worldwide by gene therapy for the immune system disease, including nine other children in the French study.

Still, FDA officials disclosed Thursday that they had halted three U.S. gene therapy trials earlier this week, days after learning that French authorities stopped trials run by Dr. Alain Fischer and colleagues at the Necker Hospital for Children in Paris, where the boy had been treated.

# Police Launch Hunt for Suspects In Sixteen-Hour Shooting of Five

By Deborah Barfield Berry and Tim Higgins  
*NEWSDAY*

WASHINGTON

Montgomery County, Md., police launched a massive manhunt Thursday for suspects who gunned down and killed five people in what appeared to be a random 16-hour shooting spree in the usually quiet suburban community north of the nation's capital.

The victims were doing routine activities such as pumping gas and grocery shopping when they were killed in five separate shootings that began Wednesday night.

Police say they have no motive for the shootings and acknowledge heightened concern that the suspect

might be a "skilled shooter" because only one shot was fired in each fatal incident.

The suspect also took aim in daylight and, in one case, near a police station.

"Nothing like this has ever happened in Montgomery County," said county Police Chief Charles Moose. "This is a very safe community. Our homicide rate just increased by 20 percent in one day. This is not what happens here."

Police said there was no indication the victims knew each other or had any connections. There was no clear motive for the shootings, police said, but they believe the shootings were connected because a similar weapon was used in each

incident. Police would not say what type of weapon was used.

Police have ruled out race as a motive in the shootings because the victims ranged from a 55-year-old white man to a 34-year-old Hispanic woman and a 54-year-old Indian cab driver.

"These individuals have not done anything. These are not figureheads," Moose said. "These are simply victims, and we need to figure out a way to stop this."

Police were looking for a white cargo van with black lettering and possible damage in the back of the van. A witness told police he believed two people were in a van that sped away soon after a shooting.

## U.S. Health Officials Sign Anthrax Vaccine Contracts

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

One year after the anthrax attacks that began in Florida and eventually claimed five lives, federal health officials announced Thursday they would signed a contract to develop and stockpile 25 million doses of new anthrax vaccine.

The fast-track proposal, which calls for production to begin by late 2003, reflects the Bush administration's ongoing concerns about bioterrorism.

"There is an urgent need to devise more effective measures to protect U.S. citizens from the harmful effects of anthrax spores used as instruments of terror," Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson said.

The new vaccine would have two major differences from the vaccine now used, primarily by the military: It would be produced by more modern procedures and could be used as a treatment after exposure.

Made by "recombinant" technology, the vaccine would consist of a purified version of immune response-provoking protein produced by batches of genetically engineered laboratory bacteria. The approach aims to exclude extraneous substances that don't contribute to the vaccine's efficacy and might cause side effects.

## Early Retiree Tax Rules Eased

LOS ANGELES TIMES

The federal government said Thursday it has relaxed tax rules that penalize thousands of early retirees whose savings have been slammed by the bear market but stopped short of providing the same help to millions of older retirees who complain that they suffer from much the same problem.

"Taxpayers have worked hard to build their retirement savings. They shouldn't be penalized when the market is down," Pamela Olson, assistant Treasury secretary for tax policy, said in a statement.

The change, effective immediately, eliminates tax penalties for early retirees who want to slow down their rate of withdrawal from qualified retirement plans such as 401(k)s and individual retirement accounts before they are 59 1/2.

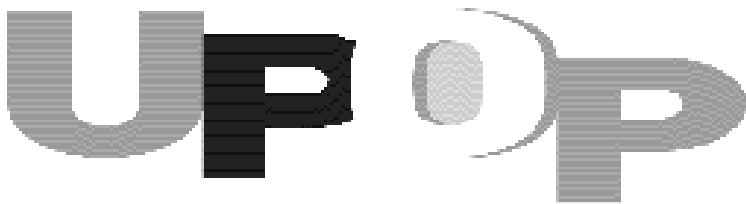
"In all the previous rules and regulations, the possibility that a retirement account balance could decline from year to year was never even considered," said Ed Slott, a retirement tax expert in New York. "But in the past couple of years, people's retirement balances have not just been declining, they're in a free-fall. This ruling has been long awaited."

Experts say the effect of the declining market has hit early retirees — whose numbers are estimated in the tens of thousands — particularly hard. That's mainly because early retirees who want to tap into qualified plans were forced to make an irrevocable decision when they retired that spelled out just how much they would withdraw each year.

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*Allow us to introduce you to:*



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**UPOP** is a unique program open to all engineering sophomores<sup>a</sup> that will allow you to develop your engineering and business skills while providing you a taste of real-life work experience. Your summer could be spent working at a National lab, a leading investment bank, a cutting edge software development firm or many other fantastic companies.

Want to know more? Come to an info session (**food will be served**):

**Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>** 7-8pm in room 56-114  
**Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>** 7-8pm in 4-231

<sup>a</sup> Details regarding enrollment procedures for students in different departments will be given at the information sessions.



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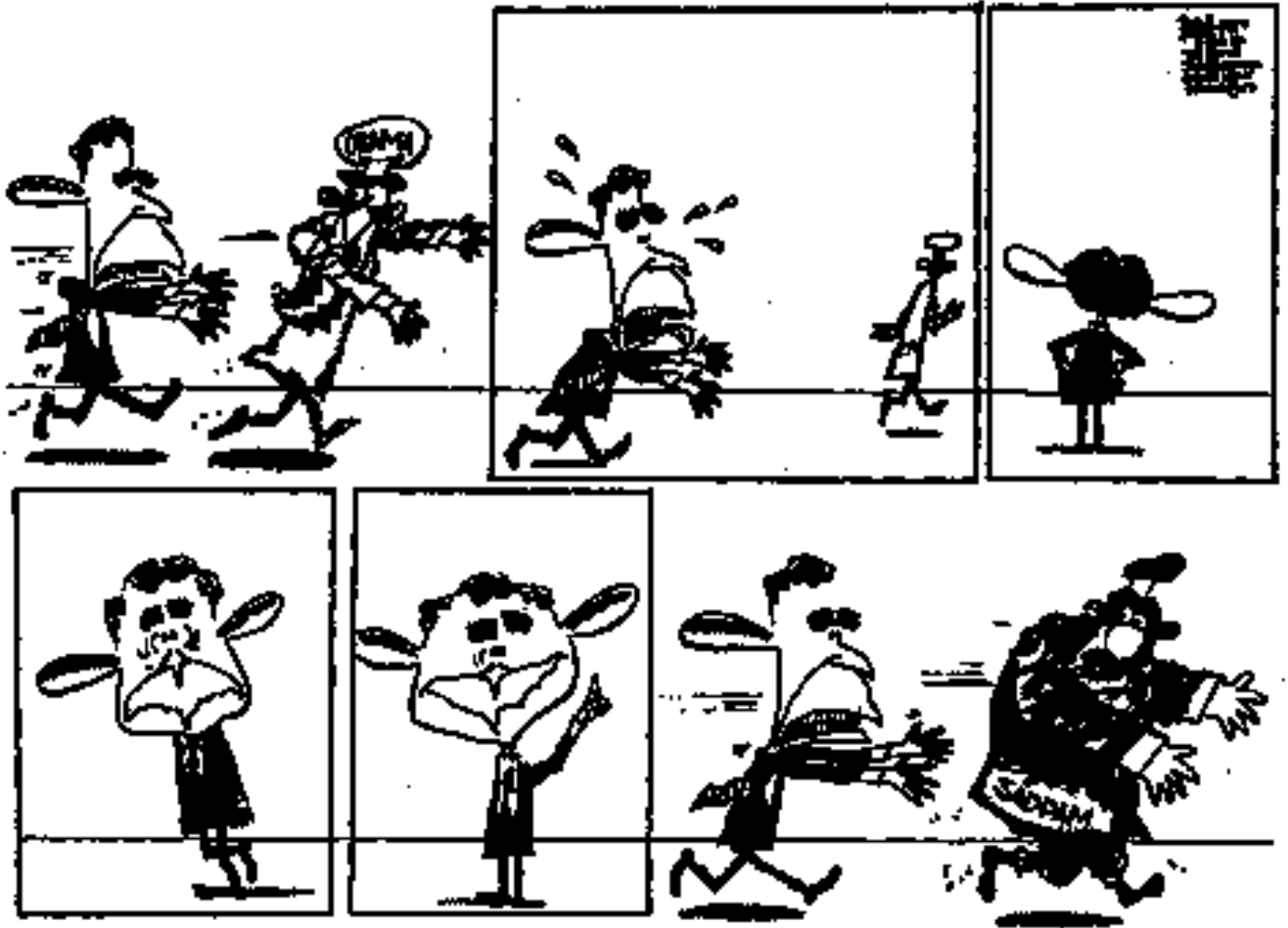
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## Errata

A Tuesday article ["Soaring Strings, Magic Hands"] mistakenly stated that Naveen Goela '03 studied *jawari* at the Ali Akbar Khan College of Music. Goela actually studied tabla.

An article last Friday ["OCW Pilot To Unveil Web Sites Monday"] misstated the initial portion of the address of MIT's internal OpenCourseWare Web site. The site is at <https://ocw-int.mit.edu>, not <http://ocw-int.mit.edu>.

# Investing in Community

Guest Column  
Jeff Roberts

Today, many people will be celebrating MIT’s new building initiative. But amidst the celebration, students, faculty, administrators and alumni should reflect on what the initiative has produced. Since I have been involved in two of MIT’s major building projects, as a member of the Founders Group for Simmons Hall and as a resident of Sidney-Pacific, I have been thinking about these additions to the residential campus.

In 1998, the commitment was made to house all freshmen on campus, necessitating the construction of a 350-bed dormitory. This decision was closely preceded by the release of the report of the Presidential Task Force on Student Life and Learning, which recommended that MIT put more resources into developing student life and campus community.

MIT then commissioned a group of planners to create an innovative space program for the residence. Later it selected an architect who would be expected to create a “signature” piece for the campus. Finally, it chartered a Founders Group comprised of students, faculty and staff that would be responsible for developing community and culture in this new building, following the recommendations of the Task Force.

From the beginning, the project was plagued by problems. MIT needed the dorm to be finished on time, but the design would involve unconventional, complicated construction methods. Conflicts with city government and abutters compounded the time problem. Everyone is aware of the cost issues.

Whenever a problem arose, it seemed that the Founders Group was further marginalized. Initially, conflicts between the goals of the Founders Group and the artistic vision of the architect were addressed through negotiation. But the Founders Group was never allowed to discuss the building’s cost, and could not effectively participate in setting priorities. As the construction timetable became tighter, it became impractical to allow further debate. By the end, the Founders Group was having very little say in the design. Looking at the building now, one

can see that aesthetics emerged as the project’s strongest priority.

While Simmons Hall is looking particularly nice today, one should notice some things. Most community spaces are incomplete. Faulty stair rails have denied students access to their lounges, which are noisy, lack sufficient furniture, or smell awful. Lounge lights cannot be turned off, while kitchens contain no overhead lighting at all. The “modular” furniture is too heavy to be moved, and some is beginning to break.

The problems faced by the Simmons community continue. There is no usable outdoor space for events. Failed negotiations with the MIT Safety Office and the Cambridge Fire Department have resulted in gorgeous roof terraces that are unusable to students.

The improvements to Vassar Street that would link Simmons to the main campus have been indefinitely delayed due to lack of funding. A design solution that would allow Simmons residents to cross Briggs Field has been ignored. The dorm created to strengthen the MIT community is largely isolated from it.

The project team included smart planners, a skilled architectural firm, and graduate students dedicated to the development of a community. The most important feature of this process is that the team worked together. Students articulated their needs to the designers down to the finest detail. They prioritized where resources were limited. They effectively dealt with neighborhood opposition. This team took such ownership of the project that when the administration tried to interfere with the design to suit its own goals, students fought them into backing down.

In the end, the building was completed ahead of time and under budget. The reaction

can see that aesthetics emerged as the project’s strongest priority.

While Simmons Hall is looking particularly nice today, one should notice some things. Most community spaces are incomplete. Faulty stair rails have denied students access to their lounges, which are noisy, lack sufficient furniture, or smell awful. Lounge lights cannot be turned off, while kitchens contain no overhead lighting at all. The “modular” furniture is too heavy to be moved, and some is beginning to break.

The problems faced by the Simmons community continue. There is no usable outdoor space for events. Failed negotiations with the MIT Safety Office and the Cambridge Fire Department have resulted in gorgeous roof terraces that are unusable to students.

The improvements to Vassar Street that would link Simmons to the main campus have been indefinitely delayed due to lack of funding. A design solution that would allow Simmons residents to cross Briggs Field has been ignored. The dorm created to strengthen the MIT community is largely isolated from it.

The project team included smart planners, a skilled architectural firm, and graduate students dedicated to the development of a community. The most important feature of this process is that the team worked together. Students articulated their needs to the designers down to the finest detail. They prioritized where resources were limited. They effectively dealt with neighborhood opposition. This team took such ownership of the project that when the administration tried to interfere with the design to suit its own goals, students fought them into backing down.

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of new residents and visitors to the building, including neighborhood residents, has been universally positive. Moreover, it has already established itself as a center of graduate student life. Sidney-Pacific has more community facilities than any other graduate dorm, and students have been using them to their full potential. They hosted an opening celebration that ranks among the best campus-wide events I have seen. It seems that Sidney-Pacific has achieved many of the things Simmons was meant to do, but at lower cost.

I don’t intend to say that Simmons Hall is patently bad. On the contrary, students seem to like it very much. After all, it began with a great space program, and the Founders Group and architect brought this program to a largely satisfactory result. The donation from Dick Simmons, demonstrating alumni support for student life, is another positive. Also, both Simmons Hall and Sidney-Pacific have the most important element for building community: a group of enthusiastic residents who “own” the dorm. We must be careful, especially with the hype surrounding Simmons, that the administration does not try to take control away from the residents. Altogether, I am very proud to be a SPy, as I am proud to call myself a Simmons Hall Alum.

This is a time to celebrate our achievements, but also a time to think critically about them. When MIT makes investments in its community, we must wonder whether those investments have a real impact on student life. Simmons Hall may be the most expensive dorm, per resident, ever built, and there may be value in bringing “signature” architecture to campus. But does this value really benefit student life? While many of the problems with Simmons Hall will be corrected in time, will we be able to justify the present frustration, not to mention the resources that could have been spent on other student life initiatives? And while it is impossible to compare Simmons and Sidney-Pacific as residences, can we compare the relative success of the processes used to develop them?

These questions should help us think about how MIT should invest in the future. The MIT campus, particularly the residential campus, is not finished expanding. Students and faculty will need more places to live, eat, gather, perform, and respire. They will also need safe and effective pathways from place to place. Let’s try to keep our priorities straight.

Jeff Roberts is a graduate student in the Department of Urban Studies And Planning.

group called “Movement for Revenge in Gujarat,” clear evidence that seeds of violence are brewing in the local communities. Having lost trust in the police, the minorities are preparing to protect themselves with weapons. In the meantime, the Hindu fanatics continue to spread hatred across the country. So what can be done to prevent a future disaster?

First, there is a need for the judiciary in India to make sure the perpetrators of this organized crime do not go unpunished. The criminals who participated in this genocide should be handed over to the International Court for all humanity to learn from. Similarly, it is well documented that these riots in India were not spontaneous, and the politicians who fueled (and continue to preach) communal hatred and violence should be contained. There is a need to look at the government, to weed out the criminal hate-mongers that have infiltrated the government ranks. It was at the level of local councilors and police officers that security was breached and burning victims were told “We have no orders to save you.” In fact, the police are known to have misguided attacked minorities straight into the hands of rioting mobs. Emergency response teams need to be mobilized nationwide. Ultimately, the agenda for growth, development, and social, economic and political justice has to prevail.

It is hoped that the Government of India will be questioned for allowing innocent lives to be plundered in the streets of Gujarat and steps will be taken at the national and international level to prevent escalation of fascist Hindu militancy. The motivation is not to destroy India’s image around the world, but to protect democracy, freedom and rights of minorities in a country, which, with all its faults and problems, is still the largest democracy in the world. If religious minorities cannot be protected in a secular India, little hope remains for many other parts of the world.

Bilal Zuberi is a graduate student in the Department of Chemistry.

# Why Muslims Hate

Guest Column  
Presley Cannady

There’s a lot of nonsense in the public forum about what Islam is and why we should even understand it. There is no need to understand it, or the aspirations of the societies that it infects, in order to defeat terror. Still, why are Muslims are so hateful of the West, and why does that hatred put us in danger?

What makes a region so dangerous is that poverty is no longer an obstacle to the acquisition of weapons and the waging of war? A small country can acquire nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, purchase arms with money diverted from more humanitarian pursuits, and even organize and support intelligence and militia formations capable of massive acts of violence. There is a litany of dangers between terrorism and failed Islamic states, especially those with respectable reserves of hard currency. The Third World has seems to be inept at social and economic growth, yet it is incredibly adept at

*Islamic culture is a dinosaur on the verge of extinction.*

expressing its frustrations in violent outbursts.

Understand that Islamic culture is a dinosaur on the verge of extinction. We live in a dangerous era where a billion of the world’s people essentially subscribe to a medieval social structure, passionate ethnic and societal centrism, and advocacy of extremely destructive behavior. Consequently, natural development has remained stagnant since the heights of the Islamic Empire’s Golden Age, which was primarily driven by Muslim gorging on Western resources and ideas. No self-described Muslim society governs itself through secular democracy except one, and Turkey’s military believes secularism comes only from the barrel of a gun.

Yet even the decline of Islamic society from the heights of barbarian glory over eleven centuries ago only explains the inferiority complex the culture suffers, not why it lashes out in anger. No, the real reason Muslims are hateful is because Israel exists and the United States stands in solidarity with it. A strip of land less than 11 miles across at its thinnest point, populated by less than 5 million Jews, has dominated the angry attention of nearly two hundred million regional Muslims for nearly sixty years. This is the most compelling evidence of the bankruptcy of Islamic culture. Despite the inability of regimes to motivate their populations to constructive activity, Arabs and Muslims have been able to keep their societies together through the sheer power of anti-Semitism.

Perhaps Islam can be reformed, but those who say so forget the trials, tribulations, and patience of the Reformation Protestants. Consider that Christianity is a faith that, unlike Islam, has wrestled and forever will wrestle with the dilemma of defining the proper spheres of the state and religion. That Christ, his disciples and St. Paul never ruled a damn thing distinguishes the first church fathers from the barbarian Bedouin king Muhammed. Islam is a faith that was born married to the state, has never in its long history been divorced from governance, and has never manifested itself in a popular movement that concerned itself with the state-religion dilemma prevalent in Christianity. To argue that its Reformation would come about as easily as it did in Christendom is absurd. Some day, the rationalists who’ve taken over the House of Saud will probably fall to the wayside of the Wahhabists or even more virulent Islamists. At that point a Middle East with an intact, nuclear-armed Iraq, an insecure Israel still bothered by a burning Palestinian infestation, and an influential Iran will move to starve the oil-dependent West out of sheer fanaticism.

The Bush Administration is on the right track, both on the war on terrorism and with the campaign against Iraq. The President should remember the strength of his own argument that the danger to the United States increases every day, and he should press our allies, especially those in Europe, into recognizing this basic truth. However, if the Europeans are too blinded by short-term self-interest to defend against the Hun, then let them burn by the wayside. The United States is more than able and willing to go it alone.

Presley Cannady is a member of the Class of 2003.

# No Orders To Save You

Guest Column  
Bilal Zuberi

“Please don’t say this was a riot. It was genocide, pure and simple.” —Mukul Sinha, a Hindu lawyer in Gujarat, India.

The tragedy that erupted in the Indian state of Gujarat in February 2002 left over 2000 men, women and children dead in just over a week, mostly Muslims — brutally killed, axed and burned in front of their loved ones. Hundreds of thousands of Muslims fled their houses and even today, more than 100,000 Muslims reside in the refugee camps of Ahmedabad. For the survivors of the massacre, there is a thin dividing line between memories and nightmares. They have visions of their loved ones being dragged out of their homes, raped, tortured, axed and put to fire. Stories, images and tales of sorrow from the witnesses and survivors remind this generation what the world may have witnessed during the Holocaust in Europe — and all this in the largest democracy in the world!

Today, India is trying to recover from the wounds it inflicted upon itself in the way of communal hatred and violence. It remains a secular state but the secular fabric of the country is under attack — and not from the outside but from within. The fear that grips Indian minorities is that a secular India will evolve into a tyranny of the majority Hindus.

It is now well documented that what Gujarat witnessed was not a riot, but a terrorist attack: a planned massacre of the Muslim minority community at the hands of militant mobs representing the Hindu fanatic groups. Clearly, the political leaders, the police and the civil government failed to protect its people, but why? Ashish Nandy, a scholar of South Asia, writes that “brutal killings and atrocities take place when the two communities involved are not distant strangers, but close to each other culturally and socially, and when their lives intersect at many points. When nearness sours or explodes it releases

strange, fearsome demons.” The Gujarat massacre, in many ways, reminded historians of the genocides in Rwanda and Bosnia, where communities living embedded into each other’s lives turned into bitter enemies and exorcised their collective being. A train mob incident triggered the catastrophe, but demographers of riots say it was for a long time coming. The fascist Hindu extremists exploited the vulnerability of the frustrated urban youth, much the same way al-Qaida recruited its volunteers. Hate campaigns against the Muslims were launched and the youth were mobilized in a Mafia-like manner and made ready for street violence. So it comes as no surprise that when violence erupted, the murderers took to the streets in no time.

The scars of the tragedy are still visible all over Gujarat and the rest of India. But what do we do now? It is important that everybody looks beyond the tragedy and develops a preventive strategy for the future. Unfortunately, it is the Muslim world that has been the quietest among all the observers. They are so tied up in their own struggles against extremism, and many of them so busy subjugating their own people, that they have by and large chosen to ignore the murder of thousands of their brethren in India. Luckily, individuals and communities in other countries, including Indians, have taken a stand for the human rights of minorities in India. It is this small but resilient voice that can prevent future atrocities. The global community needs to strengthen this voice and provide support at all levels.

The biggest fear is that no proper strategy has been drawn up as yet by the Government of India to prevent a future massacre from taking place, or to prevent the seeds of this brutal violence from spreading into the rest of India. We have recently witnessed another terrorist attack on a temple in Gujarat, and if the political observers are correct, a lack of severe action at the national and international levels will be disastrous. The attackers on the temple belonged to a previously unknown

# the crass rat



Filler Space



AFTER A FOUR-YEAR QUESTIONS PERIOD, THE GRAD STUDENT EMERGED FROM A LARVA, SOME KNOWING "IMPERIAL" HUNGER, LOST AND DIS- ORIENTED. THE BLINDING CREATURE SPENDS THE REST OF ITS LIFE FOR- AGING FOR FOOD AND A TIDY TONIC.



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DRASTIC RITUAL CALLED  
"MIND DEFENSE" WHICH  
MANY EXPERTS LINK TO  
LEONARD'S GENSELESS  
CLIFF-JUMPING.



FINALLY, AS SEEN IN THE  
GROSSLY FOOTING, THE  
YOUNG MEMBERS OF THE  
BLOOD FIGHT BRAVELY  
OVER THE DEPARTING  
GRADUATE'S TERM-  
TORY AND OFFICE  
SUPPLIES FOLLOWED BY  
THE REORGANIZATION OF  
FEELING ORDER.



AND TO CONCLUDE OUR  
SHOCKING LOOK INTO THE  
MAGNIFICENT, YET BRUTAL  
ANIMAL, WHOSE  
SEEMINGLY POINTLESS  
EXISTENCE ONLY HISTORY  
WILL VOUCHSAFE ...

**Name**  
**Signature**

[www.phdcomics.com](http://www.phdcomics.com)

# Crossword Puzzle

**Solution, page 18**

# FoxTrot

by Bill Amend

# Dilbert®

by Scott Adams

## Down The Hatchet

Reach Out and Touch the Answering Machine

By Akshay Patil  
COLUMNIST

Being at MIT has taught me that I am a bad son.

I base this observation on the fact that, according to my mom, I never call home. I get this message every time I step out of my room for more than 30 minutes. In the usual scenario, I come back to find my door kicked in with yellow tape criss-crossing my door frame. Papers are strewn about everywhere and there are muddy marks on my carpet. Inevitably, I turn to my answering machine and see a large number (usually an exponential to my absence time) of unheard messages waiting for me.

*\*Beep\* You have – 24 – new messages:  
\*Click\* Hi Akshay, this is mom calling... 4:15 our time. Nothing important... I'll call you back again later.  
\*Click\* Hi Akshay, mom calling... it's 5:00 our time. Just checking to see if you got*

*in yet. Call you later.  
\*Click\* Hi Akshay, mom again... 5:30 our time. Could you give me a call when you get back? Thanks...  
\*Click\* Hi Akshay, this is mom calling. I'm starting to get a little worried. Please call me back as soon as you have a chance. It's now 6:00 our time.  
\*Click\* Akshay, this is mom. Please call back. It's 6:15.  
\*Click\* Akshay! Where are you? This is mom at 6:30. I'm getting really worried. Are you okay?  
\*Click\* Oh my god! Akshay! What happened to you? It's 6:35! Are you still alive? Please call!  
\*Click\* Hang on Akshay! The police are on their way! If you've done something to my son, I'll skin you alive!  
\*Click\* The SWAT team is on their way, Akshay! Don't worry, we're going to come get you!  
\*Click\* Uhm, hi Akshay... the officials spoke to your neighbors and told me that you're in a computer cluster doing a lab.*

*Could you call me when you're done working? This is mom... 6:40... our time.  
\*Click\* ...*  
This has proven to me, once and for all, that those Disneyland commercials showing empty-nest parents out and about having the time of their lives are complete lies. Real college parents really do spend the majority of their time sitting at home waiting for you to call. Believe me.  
Right now your parents have set up camp next to the telephone and are engaged in a discussion as to the probability that you're going to call. They have worked out complex algorithms that take into consideration a variety of factors such as: when you usually call, when was the last time you called, when you said you were going to call next, how busy you said you were last time you talked to them, the current phase of the moon in Cambridge, the position of Pluto, etc.  
If home is where the dial-up Internet is, you can be sure that your parents are scared to go online for fear of you miraculously calling home only to find a busy signal. And if

you have two phone lines, there's a 90 percent chance that they're using the other phone line to talk to other college parents about their children and how they never call either. This means that sending an e-mail home doesn't count as a phone call; using "But Mom, I sent you an e-mail yesterday" will never excuse you from your blatant neglect. At most it will grant you a 5 second pardon after which you're reminded that an e-mail isn't the same thing and that parents are too busy worrying about your health and general well-being to have the time to do silly things like check their e-mail.  
Not that I can blame my parents. Heaven save me when any children of mine decide to go to college on the other side of the country. They aren't walking out of the house without a cell phone, camera, and GPS locating device embedded in their heads. God bless technology.  
So go call your parents. It doesn't take that long, and it'll make their day.  
The cost of the phone call easily offsets the potential property damage.

## Fun With Fire II

Featuring Nondairy Creamer

By Michael Short  
COLUMNIST

*WARNING: This trick, like almost all of the others, involves fire. This one in particular can involve quite a bit of fire. So please, for God's sake, do this one outside in a very safe, open location like a barbecue pit with a concrete or dirt floor where nothing can accidentally catch fire. Be responsible and take extra safety precautions for yourself and others.*



**Materials:**  
Non-Dairy Creamer, a Fire

**What to do:**  
Buy yourself some nondairy coffee creamer. This is sold under many brands, so it's up to you to find out which one works best for you. You might find Coffee-

mate™ nondairy creamer, or some other variety. I prefer the premium stuff (Carnation), but Shaw's™ brand is about twice as cheap.  
Now start a fire going in your very safe fireproof location. The more flames you can see the better — we aren't grilling burgers here.  
Take some of the creamer (about a handful), hold it high above the fire and let it go slowly, so a column of powder falls from your hand. The powder should be slightly dispersed in the air, so there is enough oxygen to get it roaring. When you see it start to catch fire, back a safe distance away. The column will combust quickly. Also, if you don't stand downwind you may get some of the stuff on you, which isn't harmful, but you'll smell like the inside of a horse by the time you're finished.  
While this trick works very well, any fuel/oxygen combination will have a similar result. Try it with other kitchen powders — flour, powdered sugar, corn starch... who knows?

# Want \$50?



Volunteers needed for a web-based study of physical activity among MIT students and staff. It takes only 10-15 minutes a day for four weeks (plus time for any additional exercise we can persuade you to do), and you can do it in your bathrobe (assuming you have a home computer with an internet connection).

Participants will receive **\$25** in cash and **\$25** worth of fitness goodies. You must be in generally good health and interested in increasing your level of physical activity.

To see if you qualify, check out:  
<http://exercise.media.mit.edu:2002/>







Clubs

**Axis**  
13 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2437  
Sundays: See Avalon below.  
Mondays: *Static*. Gay, casual dress. \$5, 18+.  
Thursdays: *Chrome/Skybar*. Progressive house, soul, disco; dress code \$10, 19+; \$8, 21+.  
Fridays: *Avalandx*, with Avalon.  
Saturdays: *X-night* (rock, alternative, techno, hip-hop) downstairs and *Move* (techno) upstairs.

**Avalon**  
15 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424  
Sundays: *Gay Night* (with Axis on long weekends). Featuring hardcore house and techno. \$10, 21+.  
Thursdays: *International Night*. Eurohouse. \$10, 19+.  
Fridays: *Avalandx*, with Axis. House. \$15, 19+.  
Saturdays: *Downtown*. Modern house, club classics, and Top 40 hits. \$15, 21+.

**Karma Club**  
9 Lansdowne St., 617-421-9595  
Sundays: "Current dance favorites" by guest DJs. Cover varies.  
Tuesdays: *Phatt Tuesdays*. With Bill's Bar, modern dance music. \$10.  
Wednesdays: *STP*. Gay-friendly, house. \$15, 21+.  
Thursdays: *Groove Factor*. House.  
Fridays: *Spin cycle*. Prog. house. 19+.  
Saturdays: *Elements of Life*. International House. \$15.

**ManRay**  
21 Brookline St., Cambridge, 617-864-0400  
Wednesdays: *Curses*. Goth. Appropriate dress required. \$5, 19+; \$3, 21+.  
Thursdays: *Campus*. Popular tunes, House. Gay, casual dress. \$10, 19+; \$8, 21+.  
Fridays: *Fantasy Factory* (First and third Friday of the month. Features kinky fetishes and industrial music.) *Hell Night* (every second Friday.) 19+. Includes Goth music. *Ooze* (the last Friday of the month.) \$10, 21+. Reduced prices for those wearing fetish gear.  
Saturdays: *Liquid*. Disco/house and New Wave. \$15,19+; \$10, 21+.

Popular Music

**Axis**  
13 Lansdowne St., Boston, MA. 617-262-2437

Oct. 4: Sparta  
Oct. 7: The Damned  
Oct. 23: Taproot  
Oct. 24: No Use For A Name  
Nov. 14: Theivery Corporation  
Nov. 19: The Ataris

**Avalon**  
15 Lansdowne St., Boston, MA. 617-262-2424

Oct. 6: Redman  
Oct. 12: Filter  
Oct. 17: Reel Big Fish  
Oct. 22: Badly Drawn Boy  
Oct. 25: Violent Femmes  
Nov. 3: Sigur Ros  
Nov. 22: Ani Difranco

**Berklee Performance Center**  
Berklee College of Music, 1140 Boylston St., Boston, MA.  
*Free student recitals and faculty concerts, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. some weekdays. For info on these concerts, call the Performance Information Line at 617-266-2261.*

Oct. 4: The Dave Holland Big Band  
Oct. 25: Herbie Hancock  
Nov. 20: Branford Marsalis

**Club Passim**  
47 Palmer St, Cambridge, MA. 617-492-7679  
Tuesdays: *Open Mic at 8 p.m.* (sign up at 7:30). \$5. See <<http://www.clubpassim.com>> for complete schedule

Oct. 4: Catie Curtis  
Oct. 5: Chronic Pleasuer  
Oct. 6: The Von Trapp Children

On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston  
October 4 – 11  
Compiled by Devdoot Majumdar

Send submissions to <[ott@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:ott@the-tech.mit.edu)> or by interdepartmental mail to "On The Town," The Tech, W20-483.

Oct. 7: Songwrite Tribute Series - Tom Waits  
Oct. 9: Boston Modern Orchestra Project

**FleetCenter**  
One FleetCenter, Boston, MA. 617-931-2787

Oct. 4: Bruce Springsteen  
Oct. 7: Sheryl Crow, Don Henley,

Oct. 9: Gov't Mule  
Oct. 10: Joshua Redman  
Oct. 15: Stone Temple Pilots  
Oct. 19: Wilco  
Oct. 21: Elvis Costello  
Oct. 25: Shedaissy  
Oct. 28: Beck & The Flaming Lips  
Oct. 31: Alice Cooper  
Nov. 9: Jim Norton  
Nov. 11: Joe cocker  
Nov. 14: Jack Johnson

Oct. 28: Tool  
Oct. 29: Mana  
Nov. 19: Tori Amos

**Tweeter Center**  
885 South Main St., Mansfield, MA. 617-228-6000

Oct. 6: Nelly  
Oct. 12: Korn

Oct. 4: Roomful of Blues  
Oct. 9: Mark Kross Five-Piece Trio  
Oct. 10: Teresa Ines Quintet  
Oct. 11: Donal Fox  
Oct. 12: Rebecca Parris  
Oct. 19: Sergio Brandao Octet  
Oct. 31: Max Roach Quartet

**Scullers Jazz Club**  
DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston, 617-562-4111.<<http://www.sculler-jazz.com>>. Call for schedule.

Oct. 4: Joe Lovano Street Band  
Oct. 7: Lee Ritenour, Gerald Albright  
Oct. 8: Lynne Ariale Trio  
Oct. 9: Christina Branco  
Oct. 10-11: Larry Coryell Trio  
Oct. 13: Dolly Baker All-Star Revue  
Oct. 15: Hilary Noble  
Oct. 16: EFX  
Oct. 17-18: Chris Botti  
Nov. 16: Sergio Mendez

Classical Music

**Boston Symphony Orchestra**  
Tickets: 617-266-1492.  
Performances at Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, unless otherwise noted. Student rush tickets, if available, can be obtained at 5 p.m. on the day of the concert (one ticket per person).<<http://www.bso.org>>

Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos leads the BSO in Verdi's *Requiem* with Barbara Frittoli (soprano), Larissa Diadkova (mezzo-soprano), Giuseppe Sabbatini (tenor), and Reinhard Hagen (bass). Performances on Sept. 26 (6:30 p.m.), Oct. 5 (8 p.m.), and Oct. 8 (8 p.m.).

Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos leads the BSO in Beethoven's *Symphony No. 6, Pastoral*, and Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*. Performances on Oct. 3 (8 p.m.), Oct. 4 (1:30 p.m.), Oct. 5 (8 p.m.), and Oct. 8 (8 p.m.).

**Fleetboston Celebrity Series**  
20 Park Plaza, Suite 1032, Boston, MA 02116. 617-482-2595. Venues vary by concert, consult website for further details, <<http://www.celebrityseris.org>>

Oct. 4: Cecilia Bartoli  
Oct. 6: London Philharmonic Orchestra, Kurt Masur  
Oct. 11: David Sedaris  
Oct. 16: Anne-Sophie Mutter  
Oct. 20: Jose Van Dam  
Oct. 25-27: Paul Taylor Dance Co.

Theater

**A Month in the Country**  
The Huntington Theatre Company presents Russian poet Ivan Turgenev's 1850 work, "a portrait of love and indolence in the Russian countryside." BU Theatre, 264 Huntington Avenue. 617-266-0800. September 6 through October 6. Prices range from \$12 to \$62.

**A Night With Dame Edna: The Family Show**  
A rambunctious woman with purple hair shares her experiences from

Sept. 24 – Oct. 6, 2002 at the Colonial Theatre. For tickets, call 617-880-2400.

**Blue Man Group**  
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton Street, Boston, indefinitely. Curtain is at 8 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, at 7 and 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and at 3 and 6 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets \$35 to \$45. Call 617-426-6912 for tickets and information on how to see the show for free by ushering.

**Comedy Connection**  
Mon.-Wed. at 8 p.m.; Thurs. 8:30 p.m.; Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., 10:15 p.m.; Sun. 7 p.m. The oldest comedy club in Boston. At 245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston. Admission \$8-20. Call 617-248-9700 or visit <<http://www.comedyconnection-boston.com>>.  
Oct. 11-12: Brett Buttler  
Oct. 19-20: Pauly Shore

Exhibits

**Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum**  
280 The Fenway, Boston. (617-566-1401), Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission \$10 (\$11 on weekends), \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students with ID (\$3 on Wed.), free for children under 18. The museum, built in the style of a 15th-century Venetian palace, houses more than 2,500 art objects, with emphasis on Italian Renaissance and 17th-century Dutch works. Among the highlights are works by Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian, and Whistler. Guided tours given Fridays at 2:30 p.m.

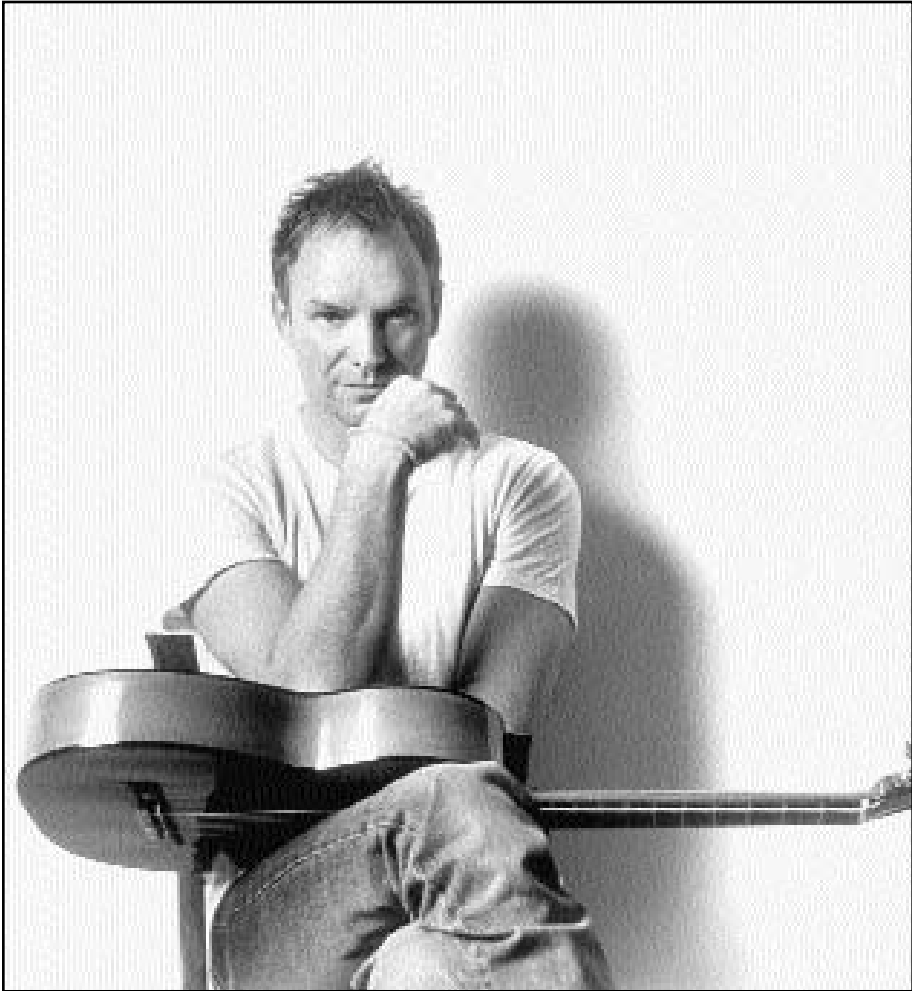
**Museum of Fine Arts**  
465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (617-267-9300), Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Wed., 10 a.m.-9:45 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. West Wing open Thurs.-Fri. until 9:45 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID.  
Currently on exhibit until Oct. 20 is "Jasper Johns to Jeff Koons: Four Decades of Art from the Broad Collections," an exploration of contemporary artists ranging from those named above to Warhol to Lichtenstein.

MFA Film Showings:  
Oct. 4: New England Film Artists: *Loaded Gun: Life and Death and Dickinson* (6:30 p.m.), Films of Gus Van Sant: Pre-release Screening of *Gerry* (8 p.m.)  
Oct. 5: *Good Will Hunting* (10:30 a.m.), New England Film Artists: *Loaded Gun: Life, and Death, and Dickinson* (1:15 p.m.), French Comedies: *Would I Lie to You* (3 p.m.),  
Oct. 10: *WILTY?* (5:30 p.m.), Films by Alexander Ptushko: *The New Gulliver* (7:20 p.m.), Gus Van Sant: *Mala Noche* (8:40 p.m.)  
Oct. 11: *WILTY?* (6 p.m.), *Short Films by Gus Van Sant* (8 p.m.)  
For further listings, check <<http://www.mfa.org/film/>>

**Museum of Science**  
Science Park, Boston. (617-723-2500), Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID, otherwise \$9, \$7 for children 3-14 and seniors. The Museum features the theater of electricity (with indoor thunder-andlightning shows daily) and more than 600 hands-on exhibits. Admission to Omni, laser, and planetarium shows is \$7.50, \$5.50 for children and seniors.

Other

**Harvard Film Archive**  
465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (617-267-9300), Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; check <<http://www.harvardfilmarchive.org>> for more details.  
*Songs from the Second Floor*, directed by Roy Anderson, showing 45 staged vignettes showing "a series of personal tragedies and city-wide crises." Showing Oct. 4-5, and 10-12 at 7 and 9 p.m.



SOLTERS

If you're willing to shell out the minimum \$50 to get tickets (which are still available), catch Sheryl Crowe, Don Henley, Billy Joel, John Mellencamp, Sting (above), James Taylor, and Roger Waters on Monday night at the FleetCenter in a benefit concert for Timothy White, the late editor of *Billboard* magazine.

Billy Joel, John Mellencamp, Sting, James Taylor  
Oct. 28: Rush  
Nov. 3: Cher  
Nov. 16: Bob Dylan

**The Middle East**  
Central Square, 617-354-8238  
Ticketmaster: 617-931-2787.

Oct. 4: Robert Walter's 20th Congress  
Oct. 5: The Shods  
Oct. 6: Chameleons UK  
Oct. 7: Brandston  
Oct. 8: Araby  
Oct. 9: Legendary Pink Dots  
Oct. 10: cinerama  
Oct. 11: Shellac  
Oct. 12: Mistle Thrush (U)

**Orpheum Theatre**  
1 Hamilton Pl., Boston, MA. 617-679-0810

Oct. 8: Ryan Adams

**Paradise Rock Club**  
967 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA. 617-562-8804

Oct. 4: Max Creek with ATP  
Oct. 5: Bleu  
Oct. 8: Lamyra  
Oct. 9: Karl Denson's Tiny Universe, Topaz  
Oct. 17: Lori McKenna  
Oct. 20: Vanessa Carlton  
Nov. 7: Jump Little Children  
Nov. 10: Fountains of Wayne  
Nov. 20: Jets to Brazil

**Roxy**  
279 Tremont St., Boston, MA. 617-931-2000

Nov. 17: Galactic, North Mississippi Allstars

**Tsongas Arena**  
300 Arcand Dr., Lowell, MA. 978-848-6900.

**TT The Bear's**  
10 Brookline St., Cambridge, MA. 617-931-2000.  
<<http://www.ttthebears.com>>

Oct. 4: The Flying Nuns  
Oct. 5: The Charms, Mates of State  
Oct. 7: Neil of Young Astronauts Club, Jonny of Jupiter Project  
Oct. 8: The Lovely Ugliers  
Oct. 9: J Mascis  
Oct. 10: The Beatings, Palomar  
Oct. 11: John Wesley Harding

Jazz

**Regattabar**  
1 Bennett St., Cambridge, MA. 617-662-5000, <<http://www.regattabar.com>> Usually two shows nightly, call for details.

 **Weight: 1/2 oz**  
**Height: 3 inches**  
**Waist: 1 inch**  
**Capacity: 16MB to 512MB**

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**Fax: 617-437-8862**  
**Deliveries 6pm - 9pm**



[www.thaidishboston.com](http://www.thaidishboston.com)

FEATURES

Campus Profile – Professor Steven Pinker

Pinker reveals the inspiration for his new book and how he deals with literary criticism

By Eun J. Lee  
FEATURES EDITOR

The Tech recently had the opportunity to interview best-selling author and Course IX Professor Steven Pinker. His new book *The Blank Slate: The Modern Denial of Human Nature* was released this week. Although Pinker is on sabbatical during the 2002-2003 school year, he teaches several Course IX (Brain and Cognitive Sciences) classes, including the popular class Introduction to Psychology (9.00). He is a native of Montreal, Canada.

The Tech: How do you keep coming up with ideas for books? Do you have a big list already for future books?

Professor Steven Pinker: One book leads to another. The final chapter of *The Language Instinct* (1994) was about how language fits into a picture of the mind as a whole. That picture had to be pretty sketchy to fit into one chapter, so I expanded it into my book *How the Mind Works* (1997). In that book, I had a section discussing the political and moral issues surrounding a belief in a human nature shaped by evolution. The section did not do the issue justice, so I wrote *The Blank Slate*, which came out [Monday].

Now I'm pondering the possibility of writing a book on how moral progress can take place over the centuries — [for example,] the abolition of slavery, torture, infanticide, and the ownership of women — in spite of the fact that human nature does not change. It would be called "The Better Angels of Our Nature," after the ending of Lincoln's inaugural address.

TT: How do you deal with criticism and praise, without letting either get to your head?

Pinker: I carefully manage when I read critical pieces — never before eating, or going to



AARON D. MIHALIK—THE TECH

Best-selling author and Course IX professor Steven Pinker signs a copy of his new book *The Blank Slate: The Modern Denial of Human Nature* after giving a talk at the Boston University Barnes and Noble Bookstore.

bed, or spending time with my wife or friends, when it might make me anxious or grumpy. A long plane trip is a good time, because I'm already not enjoying myself, and any attack can't make it much worse. When I do read criticism, I try to pick out the bits that are justifiable and that can help me improve, and for the bits that are just nasty, I try to remind myself that they can't do me much harm in the long run and

that the sting will wear off. I also remind myself of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, after all! There's no getting around criticism, sometimes nasty and undeserved criticism, in academia or probably any other responsible position. The trick is to take it seriously enough to improve in the future, without letting it permanently injure one's self-esteem.

Dealing with praise is seldom a problem — there's always enough criticism to prevent the praise from getting to one's head.

TT: Have you ever had to deal with rejection when getting a book published?

Pinker: No, although I've had journal articles and grant proposals rejected.

TT: Any advice to young writers?

Pinker: Write smaller pieces for journals and magazines before trying to publish a book. For nonfiction, get a reputation for expertise in your field before trying to write about it for a wide audience. Get feedback from other writers or people with a taste for good writing. Read style manuals and constantly think of ways to improve your prose. If you're serious about publishing a book, meet with a literary agent — he or she will have a good idea what is publishable and how to make a book or proposal look attractive to a publisher.

TT: Is there any such a thing as a "typical day" for you?

Pinker: Not really. There are days when I stay at home to write — usually from mid-morning till 2 or 3 a.m. the next morning. There are days when I come in to teach, meet with students, supervise research assistants and UROPs, and do bureaucratic chores. When a book comes out, I fly around the country, speaking at universities and bookstores and doing radio or print interviews.

TT: What do you like to do in your spare time outside of work? Any interesting hobbies?

Pinker: I like all kinds of bicycling — road, mountain, tandem. I love taking pictures, primarily landscapes and nature, and printing them digitally. I sometimes kayak, hike, jog, or roller blade. And I read constantly.

TT: What do you love most about your job

Pinker, Page 19

Planes, Trains and Chinatown Buses  
How to get from Beantown to the Big Apple on a student's budget for time and money

By Arjun Narayanswamy

What's the quickest and cheapest way to go from Boston to New York?

When I first attempted the transit from Beantown to the Big Apple four years ago, I forked out \$80 for a Greyhound round-trip bus ticket. That was a princely sum for me as a freshman, but it was the cheapest deal around. My enthusiasm to climb the Statue of Liberty and the Twin Towers was strong enough for me to justify the additional expense.

Things have changed quite dramatically since then. If I wanted to repeat my eager journey of four years ago, how might I go about doing this? In particular, what mode of transport might I use? Would it be airplane, train or bus? I will sketch out these options below.

Tight security on flights post-9/11

The past year has wreaked havoc on domestic airlines. In the past, U.S. Airways and Delta Shuttle offered youth discount programs for college students. One could purchase airline shuttle tickets in bulk that cost little more than a bus-ticket.

It was quite an attractive proposition. Hourly departures and connecting public transportation meant one could go door to door from Boston and New York in three hours. And security was so relaxed that I once even got permission to carry an armful of fencing swords as cabin baggage on the plane! Amazing? Yes. Too good to last? Perhaps.

Today, long security lines greet passengers at Logan and LaGuardia. U.S. Airways is in chapter 11 bankruptcy and both U.S. Airways and Delta have discontinued youth discounts on their Shuttle program. This means that I cannot purchase a round-trip airline ticket from Boston to New York for less than \$100 each way — and that is out of budget for most college students.

Trains expensive, Amtrak shaky

What about trains? With terminals in downtown Boston and New York, Amtrak's Acela Express trains were once touted as a substitute for airline travel.

Now, threats of bankruptcy, maintenance overhauls and doubts about safety have torn that claim to shreds. Amtrak is expensive, and prices are expected to keep rising. Congress is pressuring new Amtrak president David Gunn to make the service profitable, which probably means that the \$65 "no-frills" Amtrak service between Boston and New York will cost more in the near future. Not good news for a budget traveler.

Greyhound specials as low as \$20

In fact, just about the only thing that has stayed

unchanged from my expedition four years ago is the price of a Greyhound ticket. A regular price round-trip ticket from Boston-New York now costs \$84 — not a big move up from the price four years ago.

But Greyhound now has special discounts on selected schedules. A discount ticket costs \$20 one-way, half the price of a regular ticket and half the price of what I paid four years ago. However, the time distribution of these half-price deals is a little mysterious (clustered around 7 a.m., noon and 5 p.m.).

The puzzle gets more interesting. The pattern of these mysterious Greyhound discount deals is explained when one considers the departure of Entertainment Tours, a Boston travel service that runs buses from South Station, Boston, to Penn Station, New York. An overlapping Wednesday schedule (with discount fares indicated) for Entertainment Tours and Greyhound is shown to the right. It can be seen from this table that Greyhound offers discount fares to its customers only if the departure is within a half-hour of its low-price competitor. Prices at other times are pegged at the full-price. The selective pricing of Greyhound schedules is a competitive response of the mammoth bus company to its upstart Boston competitor.

Chinatown buses drive fares lower

Greyhound may identify Entertainment Tours as a particular threat because its buses stop at Platform 25 in South Station, a mere stone throw away from Greyhound's massive bus depot on Atlantic Avenue. With practically no distinction between its \$42 ticket to New York and Entertainment Tours' \$25 one-way ticket to the same destination, Greyhound has done the expedient thing and judiciously price-matched the competition.

However, Entertainment Tours is not Greyhound's only competition. A whole slew of discount bus operators may be found in Chinatown — a mere hundred yards away from the imposing entrance to South Station. These include Fung Wah Bus Services, Sunshine Travels and TravelPack Travel Services. Collectively, these bus services are known as the "Chinatown buses" (try a Google search for this phrase). Between them, these bus companies offer almost hourly service to New York at a fraction of the price that Greyhound charges. TravelPack, for instance, offers a restricted one-day round-trip ticket to New York for the incredibly low price of \$20!

These companies are licensed by the Federal Highway Association. They provide frequent service between New

Overlapped Wednesday Boston-NY schedule for Greyhound and Entertainment Tours bus lines (discounted Greyhound fares are bold).

| Carrier          | Route       | Departs     | Discount?  |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Greyhound        | 1995        | 0000        | No         |
| Greyhound        | 1803        | 0130        | No         |
| Entertainment    | N/A         | 0700        | —          |
| <b>Greyhound</b> | <b>1815</b> | <b>0700</b> | <b>Yes</b> |
| Entertainment    | N/A         | 0715        | —          |
| <b>Greyhound</b> | <b>1819</b> | <b>0800</b> | <b>Yes</b> |
| Greyhound        | 1823        | 0900        | No         |
| Greyhound        | 1827        | 1000        | No         |
| Greyhound        | 1831        | 1100        | No         |
| <b>Greyhound</b> | <b>1833</b> | <b>1130</b> | <b>Yes</b> |
| Entertainment    | N/A         | 1200        | —          |
| <b>Greyhound</b> | <b>1835</b> | <b>1201</b> | <b>Yes</b> |
| Entertainment    | N/A         | 1215        | —          |
| <b>Greyhound</b> | <b>1887</b> | <b>1215</b> | <b>Yes</b> |
| Entertainment    | N/A         | 1300        | —          |
| <b>Greyhound</b> | <b>1839</b> | <b>1300</b> | <b>Yes</b> |
| Greyhound        | 221         | 1400        | No         |
| Greyhound        | 1847        | 1500        | No         |
| <b>Greyhound</b> | <b>1851</b> | <b>1600</b> | <b>Yes</b> |
| Entertainment    | N/A         | 1700        | —          |
| <b>Greyhound</b> | <b>1855</b> | <b>1700</b> | <b>Yes</b> |
| Entertainment    | N/A         | 1715        | —          |
| <b>Greyhound</b> | <b>1893</b> | <b>1715</b> | <b>Yes</b> |
| <b>Greyhound</b> | <b>139</b>  | <b>1800</b> | <b>Yes</b> |
| Greyhound        | 1863        | 1900        | No         |
| Greyhound        | 1867        | 2000        | No         |
| Greyhound        | 1975        | 2200        | No         |

SOURCES: GREYHOUND LINES, INC. AND ENTERTAINMENT TOURS

York, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington D.C. and Baltimore.

Discount bus lines gain popularity

Chinatown buses are gaining popularity amongst low and middle-income communities in the East Coast cities — it is not uncommon to find college students or young professionals on these buses.

In fact, all signs indicate that the Chinatown buses are engaged in classic 14.01-style price wars with mainstream rivals Greyhound and Peter Pan. It is possible that the larger firms will have to consider further price concessions as their competition becomes better known.

Sanjay Acharya contributed to the reporting of this story.

# Rush Adds to Freshman Confusion

By Beckett Sterner  
STAFF REPORTER

This year, rush is something like a freshman physics problem set: you're not sure exactly what everything means, and you really don't

## Reporter's Notebook

know how the numbers and symbols are going to work out in the end. What follows is a brief chronicle of the daily confusion of the past two weeks, illustrating what really happens when you mix the very important decision of pledging to a fraternity with 8.012 (Physics I) homework. (Note: all fraternity names have been changed in a way with no more bearing on reality than my own twisted sense of humor.)

### Let the rush for free food begin

Everything began on Friday, Sept. 21, when I decided I was hungry and that lobster was an appropriate solution to that problem. Unfortunately, almost thirty letters worth of fraternities were offering free lobster dinners, and I didn't know a single one. Fortunately, a friend living on the same floor of my dorm came to my rescue by having received an invitation to a fraternity sometimes known as Rappa Kappa Coppa (RKC). Gathering our group together, we piled into one of their vans and rode off, having few intentions beyond enjoying our hard-earned Friday night. After consuming a sizeable portion of steak and lobster, we suddenly looked up from our plates and realized that there were a good number of friendly people around, otherwise known as "brothers." In particular, I realized that is possible to own a pool table that doesn't make every shot roll into the far right pocket, and

moreover that it was a lot of fun to play pool with these "brothers." Filling the night with random games, passing the hours playing black-jack, foosball and what have you, my friends and I all agreed later on that we had had a lot of fun. Things took a turn for the unexpected, though, when one of the brothers pulled me aside and asked if it might be even more fun for me to stay the night. I had come for absolutely nothing more than lobster, and had now discovered that I had a genuine choice to make. Feeling confused (i.e. more than usual), I decided that since it was rather late, I would prefer to go home to a bed I already knew. Of course, it appeared that RKC had events going on on Saturday, too, and they wondered if it might be best for me to come to those as well. Ignoring my conscience (Homework? What homework?), I said that yes, I would be there.

### Saturday, Sept. 22

There are a lot of worse things to do on a Saturday evening than eat dinner at the North End and have fun for free at Jillian's. On the way home, though, I found myself asking: "What would I gain, and what would I lose by joining a frat?" There are currently eighteen freshmen in my immediate living group, making our class alone similar to half a frat (with girls!). We get along well enough that we travel in packs, sometimes mobbing innocent restaurants with as many as seventeen people. If nobody pledged, one might ask, would anybody really need to? And, lest we forget, pledging would almost certainly mean exchanging our singles and doubles now for triples or quads at a frat. (How overcrowding in dorms would work next year if nobody pledged is beyond my comprehension.)

So what does this all mean? As a group, we decided it meant that we needed more evidence, that we needed to see more frats. Unfortunately, I also decided to start my 8.012 homework and quickly discovered Truth — that my week = homework. A week and two fraternities later Fast forward to Saturday morning (approximately 1 a.m.). In five days I had managed to visit just two other fraternities, checking out Tau Tau Logi (TTL) on Monday and Eta Feta Pita (NFP) on Friday. We (as a group, of course) visited TTL for football night and found them amazingly laid back, almost to the point that made us question whether or not "rush" was actually happening. Did I want to live there? Maybe. Next came NFP, where I discovered within an hour that there are some cultures I fit into, and some I don't. That makes three frats in one week, but come Sunday, 8.012 once again sounded the death knell for my weekend/social life, and that brings me to the last stretch of my rush odyssey. Towards the end, it seemed like lots of people were staying where they were already living. Just when my mind was set, though, I was offered a rather unexpected proposition. I hadn't been to RKC in a week, and one day they came quite literally knocking on my door to ask me a question. Did I want to pick up and move to a fraternity? I think my experiences in the past week and a half had led me to decide that I didn't. For some reason, though, they asked another question, something rather unexpected: In that case, did I want to be a non-residential member? Uh, nobody told me that was going to be on the problem set.

# SIPB Advice

*STUDENT INFORMATION PROCESSING BOARD*  
The is the first installment of a weekly column written by the Student Information Processing Board (SIPB). In this column you will find answers to common computing questions ranging from double-sided printing to shell scripting. You will also find announcements regarding new developments in MIT computing.

**Question:** Why do a column?  
**Answer:** We found that many changes in computing at MIT are poorly publicized if at all, and students are slow to become aware them. For example, you may still not know that you can check your MIT e-mail when you are on vacation using just a Web browser by going to <<http://web.mit.edu/webmail>>. Second, we found that there were many questions that came up often, so people in general might benefit from hearing the answers, and when better than while reading *The Tech* in lecture.

**Question:** What other places around MIT can we get help?  
**Answer:** There are several places on campus where you can get computer help. You can come ask SIPB in person or via e-mail. Our office is w20-557 (right next to the Athena cluster). Anytime members are in the office, the office is open to answer questions. You can also phone SIPB at x3-7788 or e-mail <[sipb@mit.edu](mailto:sipb@mit.edu)>.

OLC is Athena Online Consulting, MIT's official support group for Athena related questions. They have an office in the basement of the Student Center (W20-021B), and are usually open Monday–Friday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. OLC has a set of stock answers for Athena related questions on the Web at <<http://web.mit.edu/answers>>. To ask olc a question, first make sure the question isn't already answered in the Stock Answers, then type at an Athena prompt:  
athena% olc ask  
If you are receiving zephyrs, you will be notified of the status of your question via zephyr. You can send messages to the consultants by using  
athena% olc send  
For more information, look at <<http://web.mit.edu/consult>>. MIT Information Systems staffs the Com-

puting Help Desk, which provides free support for Macintosh and Windows, and offers limited Unix/VMS support by paid subscription. The Help Desk phone lines are open Monday–Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; walk-ins are welcome in the office in Building N42 from 9:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. For Mac questions, call 617-253-1101; for Windows questions call 617-253-1102. The Computing Help Desk also maintains a set of stock answers for common Macintosh and Windows questions encountered by MIT community members, at <<http://hdstock.mit.edu>>. Zephyr classes are also useful sources of assistance. You can zephyr class help with your questions, both computer related or general interest. Be sure to include a one word instance name that describes your general area of concern:  
athena% zwrite -c help -i topicname  
For example, if I were having trouble getting a personal certificate I might try:  
athena% zwrite -c help -i certificates  
**Question:** Why would Netscape claim it is "unable to generate private key?"  
**Answer:** If you are having trouble getting your computer onto your dormitory network, you can ask an RCC for help. RCCs (or Residential Computing Consultants) are students who get paid to assist other students, usually residents of the same dormitory. They can do everything from assigning IP address to providing network cables to helping you configure networking on your computer. To get in contact with your RCC, ask around your dormitory or visit <<http://rcc.mit.edu>> to submit a request.

**Question:** How can I use the wireless network at MIT?  
**Answer:** Most MIT Buildings now have wireless Internet access. Signing up for this service is easy. Detailed instructions are available at <<http://web.mit.edu/is/help/wireless>>. If you're an MIT student, and have a static IP address, follow the instructions for faculty and staff members. If you don't have a static IP address, do the following: First, install your wireless ethernet card: see MIT supported wireless cards information at <<http://web.mit.edu/is/help/wireless/configure.html>>. Then go to the Student Center or

Building N42 and turn your laptop on, and open up a Web browser to any Web site; you should be redirected to the registration Web site. If you have trouble, see the instructions at <<http://web.mit.edu/is/help/dhcp/dhcpstud.html>>. Read the MITnet rules of use, click on the Register button, enter your Athena username and password, and click register. After the confirmation message is displayed, reboot your machine, and within 15 minutes you should be able to use wireless ethernet in most parts of campus. If you're a faculty or staff member, then you first need to get a static IP address for your laptop. To do this, go to <<http://web.mit.edu/is/help/network/ip-request.html>>. Then, configure your laptop's wired ethernet card for network using the static IP address you receive and reboot. Open a Web browser and go to <<https://nic.mit.edu/dhreg/>> to register for wired DHCP. After restarting your computer with DHCP enabled, register at <<https://nic.mit.edu/dhreg/wireless>>. Enter your hostname, and then the MAC address (a.k.a. Hardware address, ethernet address, Airport ID) of your wireless ethernet card. This is a set of 6 pairs of characters, often separated by colons or white space (e.g., "71:23:f7:0c:7f:b1" or "ee a0 13 d1 f8 0a"). The MAC address will be printed somewhere on your wireless card. If you have a Macintosh with built in wireless, you should go to the Airport Control Panel and look for the "Airport ID."

When entering the MAC address in, make sure that you only enter the alphanumeric characters. For example, the above two sample MAC addresses should be entered as 7123f70c7fb1 and eea013d1f80a. After you've entered these in, in about 15 minutes, you'll be able to use wireless ethernet in most parts of campus. Have questions about Athena? Stuck with a program error? Ask SIPB! E-mail us at [sipb@mit.edu](mailto:sipb@mit.edu). We'll try to get back to you, and we might put your question in our next column. If you have a computing problem, new or old, let us know and we will be happy to help. Visit our Web site at <<http://web.mit.edu/asksipb>>. We'll be posting copies of our column, and pointers to other helpful resources here.

# Ask Arista

*This is the first installment of the regular advice column "Ask Arista." The views expressed in this piece do not explicitly represent those of The Tech, and the identities of all parties are private.*

Dear Arista,  
Is it wrong to date your TA?  
—Hot and Bothered in recitation

Dear H&B,  
Yes, yes it is wrong. Very wrong. But that just adds to the allure, doesn't it? Since your TA is responsible for evaluating you academically, the whole issue boils down to a conflict of interest. Fortunately, you can have your cake and eat it off your TA, too. If the class has more than one TA, you can always switch to another TA, freeing up the first for more romantic overtures. Or you can wait until the semester is over, and the person is no longer your TA, before you start dating. Just save the student/teacher role-playing for the bedroom.

—Arista K.

Dear Arista,  
What length of time is reasonable when it comes to being sexiled?  
—Frustrated roommate

Dear Frustrated,  
This is a delicate matter, especially if you want to maintain good relations with your roommate (whom I will assume is male, so I don't have to keep writing him/her). I suggest you take your roommate aside sometime and calmly explain to him that you respect his need to get some but that it is your room, too, and you have needs as well. If he is a considerate and understanding person, as I am sure he is, he will see your perspective and let you watch from your side of the room next time instead of sexiling you, especially if you promise to be quiet.

—Arista K.

Dear Arista,  
Someone I share a kitchen with always leaves the tables dirty, dishes in the sink, and food out to rot. I've confronted them several times about these things, but nothing ever changes. What should I do?  
—Fed Up in the kitchen

Dear Fed Up,  
This person obviously needs a personal maid. Why not step up to the challenge and clean up after them? Oh, but instead of throwing their garbage in the trash can, why not leave little bundles of it in fun places for them to find? Shoes, pillow cases, a backpack... Cats do this all the time, and people love cats.

—Arista K.

*Do you have a question you're dying to ask Arista? E-mail your question to <[fea-submit@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:fea-submit@the-tech.mit.edu)>, and it could appear in the next installment of "Ask Arista!"*

# Institute Wisdom

"Being in equilibrium is like being pregnant — either you is, or you ain't."  
—Professor Eric Dickson, 17.882 Game Theory and Political Theory

"Zero is a different number from all the numbers that aren't zero."  
—Professor David S. Jerison, 18.02 Multivariable Calculus

*Heard any insightful or funny quotes lately from your professors?*  
E-mail your quote submission along with who said it to <[fea-submit@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:fea-submit@the-tech.mit.edu)>, and it might be immortalized in our next issue!



*Most MIT students drink safely  
and many don't drink at all.  
Whatever your choice,  
these facts may help you  
or a friend in need.*

# ALCOHOL

## just

## 1 Alcohol poisoning?

If a friend has any **ONE** of these symptoms of alcohol poisoning:

- breathing fewer than 8 times per minute, or irregular breathing with 10 seconds or more between breaths
- passed out, appears unconscious or cannot be awakened
- cold, clammy pale or bluish skin
- vomiting while sleeping or passed out, or not waking up after vomiting
- no pulse, stopped breathing

**On campus: call 100 immediately**

**Off campus: call 911 immediately**

These symptoms are signs of a **medical emergency**. When in doubt, check it out. It is better to be nosy and safe than regret that you didn't do more.

## When in doubt, check it out

**Signs of a potential problem:**

- consuming a large quantity of alcohol in a short amount of time (multiple, rapid shots; funnels; chugging)
- slurred speech
- impaired motor control (stumbling, cannot walk, etc.)
- vomiting

**If you notice any ONE of these signs:**

- Keep a close watch on your friend. Even after stopping drinking, the effects of alcohol can become more pronounced over time. Your friend is still at risk of alcohol poisoning. **Do not leave your friend alone.**
- Watch for symptoms of alcohol poisoning and call for help immediately if you notice your friend progressing to severe intoxication.
- **If your friend is sleepy or out of it, make sure your friend is on his/her side**, so that if he/she vomits, the vomit will not cause choking and suffocation. Propping your friend up with a pillow in front and in back will lessen the likelihood of rolling onto his/her back.
- **Stay with your friend.** Wake your friend up frequently—every 15 minutes or so. If your friend doesn't awaken easily, get help.
- Contact your Tutor or Housemaster.
- Contact Campus Police (100) for advice or for an escort to MIT Medical (24 hours).
- **If you are unsure** of what to do, call MIT Medical (617/ 253-1311, 24 hours) for advice. All calls and visits to MIT Medical are strictly confidential.

## 2 Is there a magic formula?

**The source**

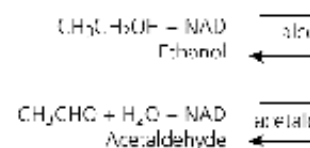
- A 12 oz. beer, a 5 oz. glass of wine or a mixed drink (1.5 oz. hard liquor) all contain approximately **the same amount of alcohol**: roughly 20 grams.
- Punches vary wildly. A 6 oz. serving can contain 0-60 grams of alcohol.

**The rate**

- The **effects of alcohol vary greatly** from one person to the next, and in the same person from one day to the next.
- The rate of metabolism is about 6-8 grams per hour (120 mg of alcohol per kilogram of weight per hour) in the average person weighing 70 kilograms or 154 pounds. **It takes two to three hours to completely metabolize one beer.**
- Many factors significantly influence the rate of alcohol absorption and the effects of alcohol, including body weight, fatigue, if you've eaten, gender, medications, and history of drinking. Alcohol requires no digestion or preparation for absorption. It is rapidly absorbed when it is presented to the small bowel.
- **Food slows the process**, diluting the alcohol and delaying gastric emptying while digestion occurs. Four drinks in one hour without food will result in a very high blood alcohol level, while the same amount of alcohol with food, spread out over a four-hour period, will result in a much lower peak alcohol level.
- Both the peak concentration and the area under the curve of alcohol concentration over time will be **lower in the slower drinker**, since absorption occurs over a longer time period and metabolism of the alcohol will be occurring simultaneously.
- The larger the physical size of the drinker, the lower the blood alcohol level will be for a given amount of alcohol. Alcohol is distributed essentially equally in total body water—about 60 percent of total body weight.

## 3 How does body metabolize alcohol?

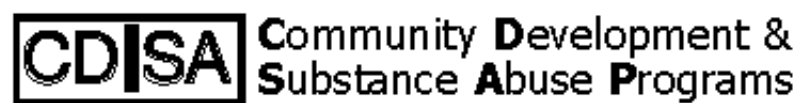
- Alcohol is metabolized by two processes that begin in the duodenum and the liver. Gastric enzymes (gastric lipases) begin to break down alcohol as it is absorbed. **Rapidity of absorption skips this first attack** on alcohol.
- Liver metabolism of alcohol is a process that commands both genetic and acquired resources. There are many acquired factors that influence the rate of alcohol metabolism.
- Alcohol itself induces the production of enzyme systems that metabolize alcohol or ethanol to acetaldehyde, and then to acetone. The dilute solution is via the following formulas:



- If a person is on **some drugs, such as aspirin, before drinking**, they can **prolong the effects** of alcohol and **inhibit alcohol dehydrogenase**.
- About 90 percent of alcohol is metabolized. The remaining 10 percent is excreted unchanged in urine. The rate of excretion is a function of the large surface area of the lungs. The rate of excretion of alcohol and its metabolites is **alcohol on the breath** and **alcohol on the blood** is **drinking**.
- The **metabolism of alcohol is a process which occurs in the liver**. **Showers, caffeine, and exercise do not alter the rate** at which alcohol is metabolized.
- The metabolism of alcohol is **not affected** after the last drink. The rate of metabolism may be metabolized at a rate of about 6-8 grams per hour after their last drink.

# OL

## t the facts



### Emergency numbers

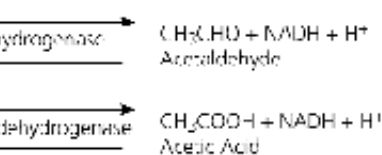
|                                      |               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| On campus Emergency                  | 100           |
| Off campus Emergency                 | 911           |
| MIT Medical Urgent Care (voice, TTY) | 617/ 253-1311 |

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## Setting your own pace

- **Eat, before and during.** Try high-protein foods, such as cheese. Avoid salty snacks, which increase your desire for liquids.
- **Avoid carbonated** mixers or sodas. Carbonation increases the rate of absorption of alcohol into the bloodstream.
- **Mix your own drinks**, so you know what's in them.
- **Caffeine or cold showers don't work.** They make you more alert, but don't affect how your body metabolizes alcohol. Once alcohol is in your system, the rate of metabolism is constant.
- **Releasing control of intake can be risky—** avoid drinking games, goals, demonstrations and attempts at intercollegiate record breaking.
- **Alternate akohol beverages** with noncarbonated, non-alcohol beverages, such as juice.
- Stop drinking alcohol for **part of the night:** dance, chat with friends, go to the bathroom.
- If you want more, **refill your glass yourself—when it's empty**, not when it's half-full.
- **Don't mix akohol with other drugs** (Valium, aspirin, cocaine, etc.). Some combinations can be deadly.
- Avoid punches unless you're **clairvoyant** and can predict how much alcohol is in the punch.
- Vomiting doesn't work. Unless it occurs **immediately** after drinking, most of the alcohol will already be in your blood. Besides, it's not that attractive or fun.

## Finding out more

### MIT Medical (E23)

visit [web.mit.edu/medical/](http://web.mit.edu/medical/)

Internal Medicine call your provider directly  
*medical advice, counseling* or 617/ 253-4481

Mental Health  
*counseling, referral* 617/ 253-2916

Personal Assistance Program 617/ 253-4911

MIT Alcohol Support Group 617/ 253-4911

Al-Anon and AA 617/ 253-4911  
*info on campus support meetings*

Health Education 617/ 253-1316  
*info, speakers, programs*

### Dean for Student Life

Counseling and Support Services 617/ 253-4861  
*(5-106) counseling, referral*

Residential Life and Student Life  
Programs 617/ 253-6777  
*(W20-549) policy information, event registration*

### Campus Police

Legal advice, information, referral 617/ 253-1212

Crime Prevention 617/ 253-9755

Sensitive Crimes 617/ 253-6875

*educational information:*

*e-mail* [crimbite@mit.edu](mailto:crimbite@mit.edu)

*or visit* [web.mit.edu/cp/www](http://web.mit.edu/cp/www)

### Student-to-Student

Nightline (7pm to 7am, school year) 617/ 253-8800  
*peer listening hotline*

MedLINKS 617/ 253-1318  
*or visit* [web.mit.edu/medlinks/www/](http://web.mit.edu/medlinks/www/)  
*basic info, referrals*

### Other Help

Chaplains see listing in MIT Directory

### Off Campus

AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) 617/ 426-9444  
*area support groups for alcohol users*

Al-Anon 781/ 843-5300  
*support groups for friends and family affected by another's drinking*

Mass. Substance Abuse Helpline 617/ 445-1500

Bridge Over Troubled Waters 617/ 423-9575  
*free drug/alcohol counseling for those under 25*





# Some IFC Members Fight Over Sanctions

IFC, from Page 1

Committee pursued stiffer sanctions after hearing feedback from member houses of the IFC.

"The [IFC] community responded. ... they expressed their outrage," Yue said, in response to the sanctions.

## IFC pursues stricter policies

IFC ExecComm had previously announced a stricter approach to violations of risk management policies at a Sept. 4 meeting. "It was the best method to use to protect our community," Yue said. Yue described the policy as "zero-tolerance" for freshman drinking.

Some fraternity presidents indicated frustration that subsequent sanctions were not as strict as had been earlier suggested, Yue said.

Former IFC Treasurer Patrick M. McCaney '03 described the sanctions as trying to work with fraternities to improve their compliance with risk management policies.

McCaney resigned earlier this week after learning of the decision to seek stricter sanctions for the four fraternities.

"More than wanting the sanctions to be harsher, ExecComm wanted it to go through the correct channels, ... to do it right," Yardley said.

The original hearing panel consisted of Rogers; FSILG Coordinator Frank S. Council; Sheldon Y. Chan '03, chairman of the IFC Judicial Committee; and two other members of IFC JudComm. Rogers said that the accused fraternities acknowledged responsibility for some of the charges.

## Hearing panel deemed unusual

Rogers and Yardley both described the panel as unusual. Ordinarily, IFC JudComm hears arguments from accused houses and the IFC chief investigator, Yue said.

In many administrative hearings, no such arguments are made, and the panel relies on police reports or

similar statements, Rogers said. In this case, the panel relied on an IFC report on the violations.

"There were no witnesses ... to flesh out the details so the truth could come out," Yardley said.

"The IFC was not represented at those hearings," Yue said, adding that Chan served as a moderator for the proceedings.

"The lack of witnesses was an oversight," Rogers said. "We had the reports. It wasn't thought we needed witnesses to back up the report," he said.

Rogers said that he was not bothered by efforts to impose stricter sanctions. "We have to go by the community standards," he said.

"I think it would be irresponsible for any organization to not take a strict stance on alcohol," Rogers said.

Rogers said the hearing panel was assembled to deal quickly with the violations.

## Other IFC officials resign

The events leading up to last night's vote have resulted in at least one ExecComm resignation. In addition to McCaney, Bryan D. Schmid '03 has resigned as IFC external relations chair. Schmid could not be reached for comment, and his reasons for resignation are not clear.

Yu Eric Zhang '04, IFC new members program chair, resigned to participate in the Cambridge-MIT Institute.

McCaney, the current president of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, said that the ExecComm policy on alcohol violations was too harsh, and that seeking new sanctions amounted to "double jeopardy."

McCaney was one of four members of ExecComm belonging to fraternities charged with alcohol violations.

Yue and Risk Manager Larry Colagiovanni are members of Kappa Sigma fraternity. Vice President Amado DeHoyos is a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

Persons with cancer and their family members and friends are invited to attend the American Cancer Society's upcoming "I Can Cope" series designed to address ways to manage the side effects of illness and treatment. This free workshop will take place on Thursday, October 31, 3:00-5:00 pm in the Wyman 3 Conference Room at Mount Auburn Hospital, 330 Mount Auburn Street in Cambridge. For more information, please call Beth Roy at (617) 499-5665 ext. 4656.

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**Tuesday, October 8th 6:00 - 8:00 PM**  
**Room 4-153**

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## Boston Symphony Orchestra Student Ticket Program 2002-2003

The Council for the Arts at MIT offers MIT students the opportunity to attend up to 20 Boston Symphony Orchestra performances during the 2002-03 season for no charge with the BSO College Card.

MIT students only need to show their valid MIT Student IDs at the BSO Box Office (301 Massachusetts Ave.) to pick up a BSO College Card.

Each BSO College Card offers a seat to up to 20 concerts and open rehearsals during the upcoming BSO season.

Beginning at 9:30am on the day of each concert offered through the card, student cardholders will be able to call a special designated phone line (617-638-9478) to confirm that tickets are available for that day's concert. Tickets will be available for pickup - one per cardholder, student ID required -- at the Symphony Hall Box Office from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on concert days. Tickets are available on a first-come first-served basis, but a minimum of 100 tickets will be held for each BSO College Card concert.

Only one card per MIT student ID will be issued.

Lost or stolen cards cannot be replaced.

All programs and artists are subject to change.

For the list of eligible concerts, go to:  
<http://web.mit.edu/arts/general/BSO.html>

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| Geoscience             |                        |




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**CCRR**  
committee on campus race

**ccrr grants program 2002+0**

We're looking for innovative proposals for events, activities, and educational programs to enhance racial and cultural relations at MIT. All members of the MIT community - students, faculty, and staff - are welcome to apply. For information or an application, contact ccrr at x3-1706 or [racerelations@mit.edu](mailto:racerelations@mit.edu).

next deadline  
**november 1**

[web.mit.edu/ccrr](http://web.mit.edu/ccrr)

## Recruiting '03, '04 and '05 Classes for the new

# Academic Resource Center (ARC) Student Advisory Board

Are you interested in helping with Choice of Major, IAP, and UROP programming, as well as molding freshmen academics through Associate Advising, teaching Learning Strategies courses and writing for the web.

You can do all these things as part of the ARC Student Advisory Board. This new advisory board has been created to get students from all over MIT more involved with freshmen year activities, programming, and academics by working with the Academic Resource Center (7-103 and 7-104).

-To find out more about the ARC Student Advisory Board please come to our **Info Session on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in 5-231.**

-This info session will cover the application process, board member responsibilities, and meeting times. If you are unable to attend the information session, applications are available in 7-103.

-For questions please contact

|   |
|---|
| Rebecca Kurnik '03 - <a href="mailto:rkurnik@mit.edu">rkurnik@mit.edu</a> |
| Elizabeth Young - <a href="mailto:eyy@mit.edu">eyy@mit.edu</a>            |
| Dan Chapman - <a href="mailto:dwc@mit.edu">dwc@mit.edu</a>                |

**\*Info Session October 9<sup>th</sup> at 4pm, Room 5-231**

**\*Applications due on October 16<sup>th</sup> in 7-103.**



# POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to The Police at MIT between August 25, - September 15, 2002. This summary contains most incidents reported to the MIT Police but does not include incidents such as: medical shuttles, ambulance transfers, false alarms, general service calls, etc.

**August 25:** Bldg. E51, male issued trespass warning; Bldg. E55 plaza report of skate boarders in plaza, gone upon arrival; Boston, Lambda Chi Alpha, noise complaint.

**August 26:** Boston, Beta Theta Pi, report of sidewalk blocked by items; Bldg. E23, past larceny of credit cards; Student Center, report of male suspect in women's restroom, all areas checked negative results.

**August 27:** Bldg. 13 report of larceny of wallet, value unknown; Bldg. E39, complaint of harassing e-mail; Bldg. W51, larceny of bicycle, \$100; Boston, Tau Epsilon Phi, report of suspicious male in area of fraternities; Bldg. W89, laptop computer stolen \$1,100; Bldg. 54, bicycle stolen value unknown; Bldg. 14, suspicious male stopped, checked out okay; Bldg. W86, report of homeless person sleeping on side of building, person escorted to shelter.

**August 28:** Bldg. 4, rooftop violation; Boston, Sigma Phi Epsilon, report of loud party; Ashdown House, well-being check on student.

**August 29:** Bldg. 7, report of suspicious male, trespass warning issued; Bldg. E52, suspicious person in area, gone on arrival; Boston, Phi Kappa Theta, larceny of a bike \$100; Amherst St., report of person sleeping in the back seat of a taxi cab, checked out okay.

**August 30:** Boston, Delta Tau Delta, loud party; Bldg. 7, Fredrick Harvey arrested for trespassing; Senior House, noise complaint. \

**August 31:** Boston, Lambda Chi Alpha, report of loud noise, area checked no cause found; Student Center, Christopher Ambrose arrested for trespassing.

**September 1:** Boston, Alpha Epsilon Pi, report of loud party; Pacific Lot, report of person sleeping in lot, escorted off property no further incident; Bldg. NW86 person reported sleeping in lot area, checked out okay.

**September 2:** Bldg. 4, larceny of backpack and a wallet, \$290, backpack later recovered minus wallet; Student Center, William Sorkpor arrested for trespassing.

**September 3:** Bldg. 66, homeless person found sleeping, escorted off campus; Bldg.W51 report of suspicious male loitering around bikes, gone upon arrival; Bldg. 54, laptop computer stolen, \$5,000; Stata Center, laptop and camera stolen \$3,900; Delta Kappa Epsilon, report of glass being thrown on the sidewalk.

**September 4:** Alpha Delta Phi, domestic violence assault; Student Center, male issued a trespass warning; Bldg.W51, vandalism of a bicycle, \$150; Kresge, laptop computer stolen from backpack at the Barbecue Pit valued at \$2,400.

**September 5:** Bexley Hall, backpack containing laptop stolen, \$2,050; Burton-Connor, larceny of a bike, \$1,034.

**September 6:** Bldg.1, bike stolen, \$400; 70 Pacific Street, loud party; Bldg. W35, property damage to two windows, unknown value.

**September 7:** Bldg. 66, laptop computer stolen, \$1,800; Boston, Phi Sigma Kappa, report of unwanted guest, subject gone upon arrival of MIT PD; Exterior of Bldg. 68, report of suspicious person looking into vehicles, subject stopped and checked out okay; Boston, Sigma Phi Epsilon, report of unwanted guest causing a disturbance, David Gould arrested for malicious destruction of property, disorderly conduct, and possession of alcohol.

**September 8:** Baker House, purse stolen, \$25, Delta Kappa Epsilon, report of glass being thrown on the sidewalk.

**September 9:** Bldg. 3, vacuum cleaner stolen, \$200, 500 Memorial Dr. bicycle stolen, \$320.

**September 10:** Albany Street Garage, vehicle broken into CD player/radio and other items stolen, \$465; Bldg. 42, breaking and entering of room and computer stolen, \$2,000; Briggs Field, wallet stolen, \$5; Bldg. E51, bike stolen, \$200.

**September 11:** Bldg. E40, purse containing credit card stolen; Bldg. W31, report of wallet stolen, contents and value unknown, Hayden Library, computer parts stolen, \$20; Amherst St. laptop computer stolen from vehicle, \$1,850.

**September 12:** Bldg. E52, bicycle stolen \$1,500; Bldg. 42, construction trailer broken into and tools stolen, \$2,000; Bldg. 4, computer CDs stolen, \$10; Bldg. NE43, computer equipment stolen, \$750; 33 Mass. Ave., bike stolen \$490.

**September 13:** Bldg. E15, computer monitor stolen, \$1,244; MIT Coop, stolen golf bag, \$170; Bldg. 2 computer parts stolen, \$400; Bldg. E51, laptop stolen \$3,000.

**September 14:** Baker House, bicycle stolen, \$602.

**September 15:** Bldg. 56, laptop computer stolen \$4,000; Baker House, 1) cell phone stolen and laptop stolen, \$2,500; 2) cell phone stolen, \$150; Boston, Lambda Chi Alpha, unauthorized party, Walker, report of female screaming, checks out okay.

Free Computing for all MIT Students

Fall Term 2002 Minicourse Schedule



## Athena Minicourses

### Fall Term 2002

|         | Mon    | Tue             | Wed    | Thu            |
|---------|--------|-----------------|--------|----------------|
| 12 noon | 9 Sep  | MSO             | 10 Sep | Matlab         |
| 7 p.m.  |        | MSO             |        | Maple          |
| 8 p.m.  |        | Matlab          |        | Maple          |
| 12 noon | 16 Sep | Frame           | 17 Sep | Latex          |
| 7 p.m.  |        | Frame           |        | Latex          |
| 8 p.m.  |        | Frame Thesis    |        | Latex Thesis   |
| 12 noon | 23 Sep | Student Holiday | 24 Sep | First Course   |
| 7 p.m.  |        | No Classes      |        | First Course   |
| 8 p.m.  |        |                 |        | Working        |
| 12 noon | 30 Sep | First Course    | 1 Oct  | Working        |
| 7 p.m.  |        | First Course    |        | Latex          |
| 8 p.m.  |        | Working         |        | Latex Thesis   |
| 12 noon | 7 Oct  | Serious Errors  | 8 Oct  | Dotfiles       |
| 7 p.m.  |        | Serious Errors  |        | Serious Errors |
| 8 p.m.  |        | Dotfiles        |        | Info Resources |
| 12 noon | 14 Oct | Holiday         | 15 Oct | Matlab         |
| 7 p.m.  |        | Coulomb's Day   |        | Matlab         |
| 8 p.m.  |        | No Classes      |        | Maple          |

**Quick Intro Sequence:** First Course, Working, -- means More Material in Less Time: files and directories, e-mail and word processing, orientation and help resources, all in just two hours.

**Need More? One hour is all it takes:** Get started with any word-processing package, thesis options, data-crunching, graphing, other math software, communication, web-pages, etc. in just one hour.

- For course descriptions: see [web.mit.edu/mthdev/](http://web.mit.edu/mthdev/)
- All minicourses taught in Room 3-343. Minicourses are one hour each.

**HOW TO REGISTER FOR A MINICOURSE:** You Can't! They're free!

- No Pre-registration Needed... JUST SHOW UP FOR THE CLASS.

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All Classes in Room 3-343

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**DATE:** October 7, 2002

**TIME:** 7:00 pm

**PLACE:** Room 5-134

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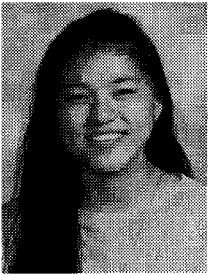


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- ❖ What is the future of faith?
- ❖ What gives us hope? How do we nurture or sustain that hope?

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Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston, Dean of the Episcopal Divinity School

Oct. 4 - Noon to 1pm - Student Center, Rm 491

Bring your lunch; we'll provide beverages & dessert

Scheduled discussions:

- Nov. 8 Dan Burns, EAPS research scientist and Roman Catholic Deacon  
Noon to 1pm - Student Center, Rm 407  
Bring your lunch; we'll provide beverages & dessert
- Dec. 6 speaker TBA  
Noon to 1pm - Student Center, Rm 491  
Bring your lunch; we'll provide beverages & dessert
- Mar. 7 speaker TBA  
Noon to 1pm - Student Center, Rm 491  
Bring your lunch; we'll provide beverages & dessert
- Apr. 4 speaker TBA  
Noon to 1pm - Student Center, Rm 491  
Bring your lunch; we'll provide beverages & dessert
- May 2 speaker TBA  
Noon to 1pm - Student Center, Rm 491  
Bring your lunch; we'll provide beverages & dessert

For further information, contact [pauleynolds@mit.edu](mailto:pauleynolds@mit.edu)

TODAY

Freshmen ‘Content’ With Dorm Selection

Housing, from Page 1

“I think the lotteries, which were newly designed this year, seemed to have worked very well,” said Larry G. Benedict, dean for student life.

RSIT is in the process of analyzing and evaluating this year’s housing assignment process. In December, it will submit recommendations for next year’s process to Benedict and Robert P. Redwine, dean for undergraduate education.

Simmons among most popular

Dormitory preference was divided into three groups. The first cluster included the most popular dormitories that were ranked as first through third choices in the summer lottery. The second cluster were less in demand, and the third cluster had the least requests.

Simmons Hall, Burton-Conner, Macgregor House, and Baker House were included in the first cluster. Next House, East Campus, and New House were in the second, and Random Hall, Bexley Hall, and Senior House were in the third. McCormick did not fall into any of the three groups because all residents participate in residence-based advising.

Except for the addition of Simmons, these results were consistent with last year’s results.

“Of course it’s disappointing ... we would love to see more freshmen interested in living here,” said Henry Jenkins, housemaster of Senior House. “However, we have the distinct challenge of communi-

cating long-distance what Senior House is really like, because we’re not as mainstream as some of the other dorms.”

The results of the questionnaire showed that the most important factors in residence selection were location, building facilities/services, and social atmosphere. Cost, special programs, and health/allergy concerns were less important according to the Orientation adjustment lottery results.

Housing lottery process changed

This year the process of dormitory selection was quite different from last year. Incoming freshmen ranked all the dormitories they were eligible for online or by mail over the summer and were assigned to dormitories and rooms before they arrived on campus.

During Orientation, they entered the Orientation adjustment lottery to request either to stay where they were or move. Dormitory governments then readjusted room assignments according to this information.

FSILG rush began three weeks later, although freshmen pledges will not be able to move off campus until next year.

Last year, freshmen were assigned temporary rooms during the summer. FSILG and dormitory rush took place during Orientation, and at the end of that freshmen either moved into a FSILG or entered the lottery for a dormitory assignment.

Kevin R. Lang contributed to the reporting of this story.



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tuesday, oct.8

- HOMOPHOBIA IN LATINO CULTURES / 5:30-7 pm / W20-028

wednesday, Oct.9

- RAINBOW LOUNGE OPEN (TEA DANCE @ 4) / 1-6 PM / rainbow lounge
- TRANSGENDER LIVES: A PANEL DISCUSSION / 7-8:30 PM / 3-133

thursday, oct.10

- INFO BOOTH / 10 AM-3 PM / lobby 10
- RAINBOW LOUNGE OPEN / 12-4 PM / rainbow lounge
- RAINBOW RECEPTION / 4-6 PM / bush room (10-105)
- QWILTS GAME NIGHT & PIZZA (women only) / 6:30-9 PM / rainbow lounge (50-306)

friday, oct.11

- FRIENDSHIPS BETWEEN STRAIGHT AND GAY MEN / 2-4 PM / E51-095

saturday, oct.12

- DAY TRIP TO PROVINCETOWN / all day  
note: deposits are due to Tom Robinson (W20-549) by 3 PM on October 3 (\$32.00 made payable to “MIT”)

for more info: [web.mit.edu/lbgt/programs/outweek.html](http://web.mit.edu/lbgt/programs/outweek.html)



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# Pinker ‘Sympathetic’ with Legalization of Marijuana

Pinker, from Page 10

as an MIT professor and also your field of work?

*Pinker:* I love being in a groove when a class is responding to my lecture — nodding at the explanations, raising their brows at the demonstrations, laughing at the jokes. I love figuring out an explanation for a puzzling

pattern in experimental data. I enjoy going out for dinner with colleagues and a visiting speaker and sharing jokes and gossip and learning or debating interesting ideas.

*TT:* If you were stuck on a desert island and could only take one book with you, what would it be?

*Pinker:* *The Encyclopedia Britannica.*

*TT:* Do you have any children? If so, have you ever been tempted to do psychological studies on them?

*Pinker:* No children. If I did, I would certainly observe their language development and do little game-like studies with them. Since everyone gets the children they deserve, I am sure that they would refute every one of my theories.

Maybe that’s why I don’t have children.


*TT:* As a native of Canada, what do you think about the recent decision to legalize marijuana?

*Pinker:* I am sympathetic to the decision. I don’t think that the government should criminalize acts that do not harm other people. It not only is needlessly punitive to the actor, but


it inevitably leads to mafias and gangs: if people want some illegal commodity, suppliers for it will materialize, and if they can’t defend their interests by calling the police — which they can’t if the commodity is illegal — they will cultivate a reputation for toughness and a hair-trigger for violent revenge.

*TT:* What’s your favorite ice


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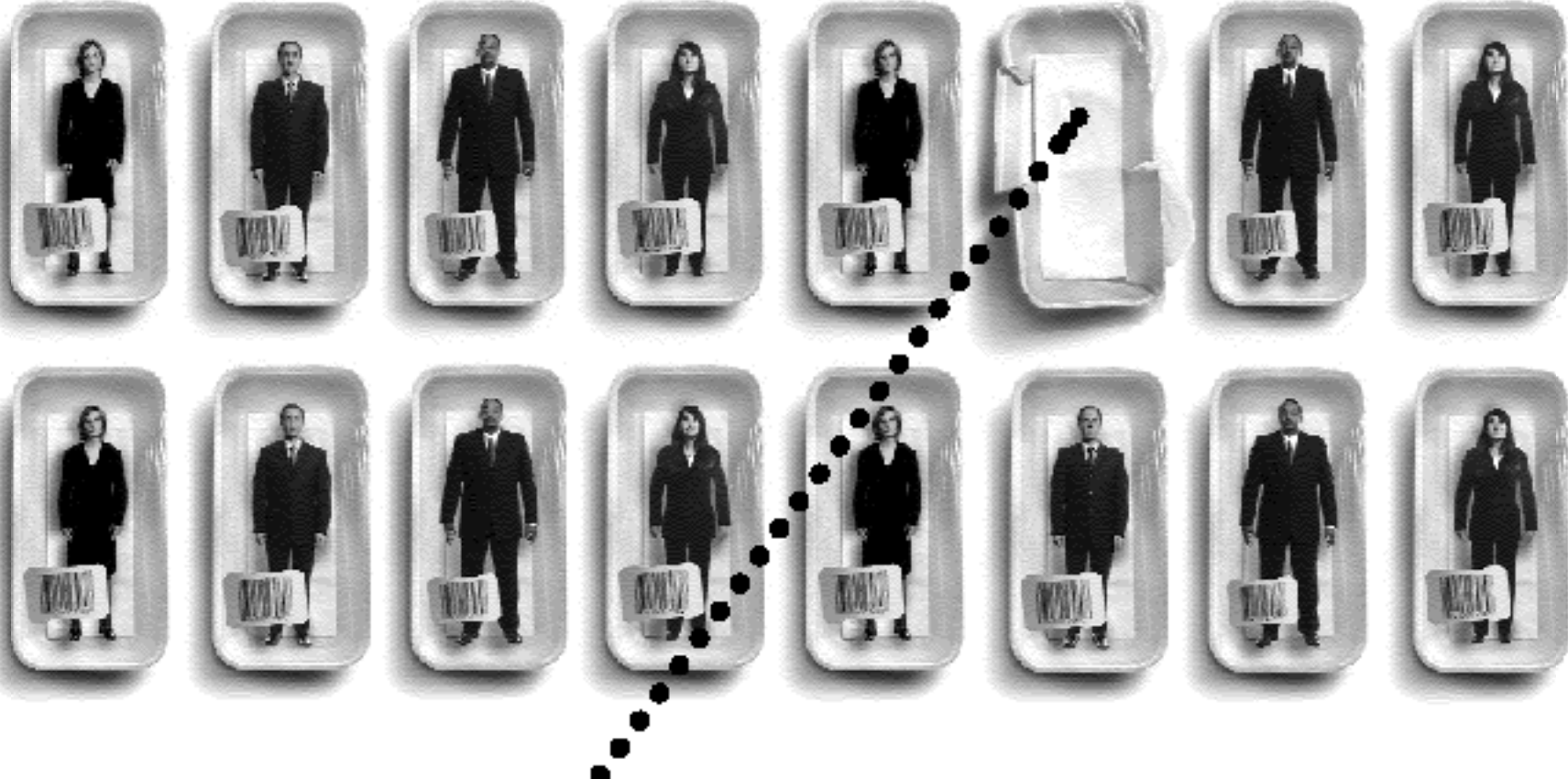
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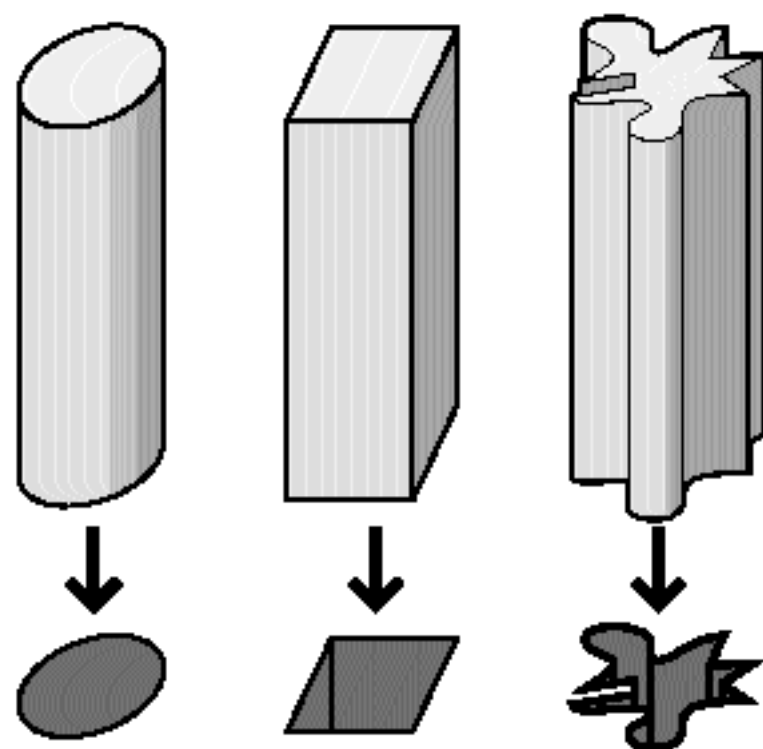
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# Sponsors of Competition Unfazed by Poor Economy

50K, from Page 1

related. Since then, entries in biotechnology have fared well in the competition.

“Science-based plans will continue to dominate the competition,” said Richard P. Kivel, CEO of Molecularware and 1999 \$50K winner. He said that the medicine will remain a competitive category. However, Kivel said that social and developmental area is a new source for potential projects.

Yonald Chery SM ’88, whose company, Virtual Ink, won a \$10K prize in 1997, said that ideas involving energy and fuel sources would be especially relevant in the future. “It could radically change the industry and be quite fundable,” Chery said. He added that most successful entries have a broad positive impact on society at large.

## Economy has little effect on \$50K

Despite the recent downturn of the economy this past year, competition sponsors and entrants have not been dissuaded from participating.

“It’s a scary time to get funding,” said Ted Selker, a professor at the Media Lab and a \$50K competition mentor. He added, “It’s a good time to start a company.”

“From an overall economic standpoint, this is a great time to [start a company]. There’s plenty of money out there, and no one’s spending it,” he said.

“You can get people with real experience to join you in the early stages,” Selker said.

The economy “is not hurting entrepreneurship,” Kivel said. He said that now businesses must be built on fundamentals. Business projects must think long-term and plan for profitability sooner.

Sponsorship for the contest has also not been affected, said Christopher Bauserman G, a graduate student at the Sloan School of Manage-

ment. He said that sponsors recognize the positive impact that \$50K Competition winners have on the community, and as a result, retention of sponsors remains high.

In order to further guarantee funding for the competition, a \$50K Competition endowment is being formed.

## Turnout higher than expected

The event Wednesday night drew much larger crowds than anticipated, said Timo Somervo, the events team leader for the competition. He estimated that 150 people attended the session, more than last year. Attendants included students from Harvard Business School, Babson College, and MIT undergraduate and graduate programs, including the Sloan School of Management.

“There should be many more plans to enter the competition this fall,” Somervo said. A preliminary estimate of submissions for this year is 120 to 130, up from last year’s 100.

“There’s a lot of energy this year,” said Julie A. Smith G, communications team leader for the competition.

The competition organizers attribute the high interest to different factors.

Somervo pointed out that this year’s events have been advertised more.

Smith said that many students are thinking seriously about startup companies at a time when jobs are less plentiful. Specifically, she noted an increase in interest in entrepreneurship at Sloan. She added that there are many more graduate students who have been involved with startups that failed three to five years ago.

## Contest in its 14th year

The MIT \$50K Entrepreneurship Competition began in 1990 as the \$10K Competition. The event was a

collaboration between the MIT Entrepreneurs Club and the Sloan New Ventures Association to bring together the ideas and expertise of engineering and business students.

In 1996, the \$10K Competition became the \$50K Competition.

The entries are judged by a panel of entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, and professionals. The competition has generated over 60 companies, with a total worth of over \$10.5 billion.

During the fall term, \$1K

“warm-up” teams will discuss ideas and strategies. Then, in Spring 2003, \$50K teams will form. The \$50K Competition offers \$30,000 to the winning team and two \$10,000 prizes to the runners-up. The prizes will be awarded on May 14, 2003.



JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

Vishwesh Kulkarni G, a student in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, talks to Karen Freeman G, a student in the Sloan School of Management, during Wednesday’s \$50K Competition Team Building Dinner in Walker Memorial.

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# Frosh Elect Hoff as President, New Officials Hopeful

By Shan Riku

The Class of 2006 has elected Jeffrey D. Hoff '06 as class council president. The results of the council election were revealed Wednesday, after almost 500 freshmen voted online or on paper over the course of six days.

President-elect Hoff received nearly one-third of the votes, winning by a wide margin.

"I'm excited [about the results]," Hoff said. "I hope this year is good, and I'll do my best to make the year great."

Although he did not reveal specific plans, he said, "our class has a lot of potential. I'll use that potential to do good things."

The position of the vice president went to Raphael Farzan-Kashani '06.

"I feel very honored that my classmates are so confident in me that I could help lead a class towards a great year," he said.

The freshmen class "should be prepared for a really, really memorable year," Farzan-Kashani said. "I can't wait until we get down to business."

**Lam elected secretary**

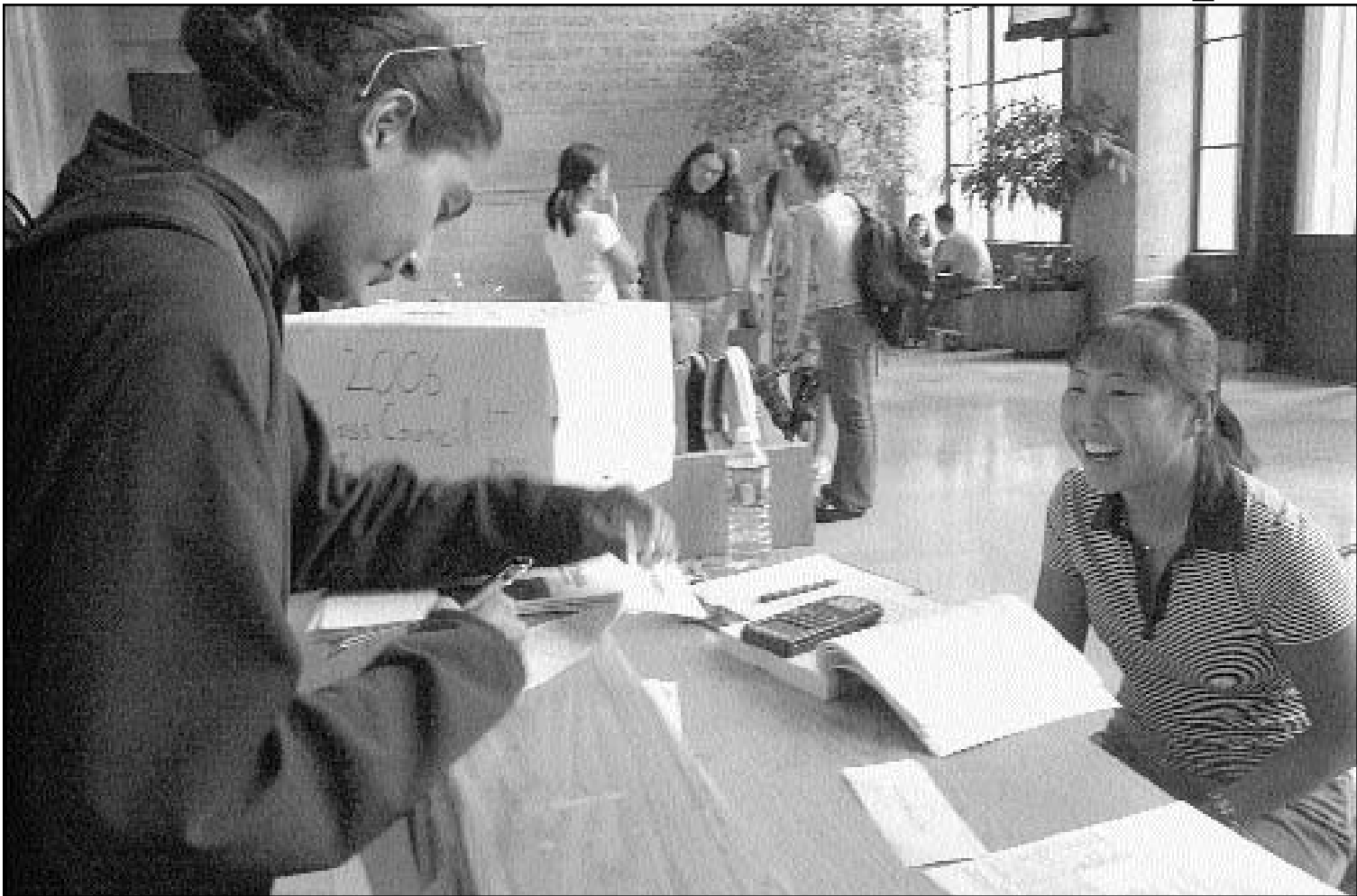
The only candidate for the position of secretary, Amy R. Lam '06, received over 350 votes.

"I enjoy being a part of the class leaders who get to make the decisions throughout the year," Lam said. "I would like to bring some fresh ideas to the [Undergraduate Association]."

The Class of 2006 Treasurer will be Brendan J. Smith '06, who edged out Timothy C. Davenport '06 by 13 votes.

"I really appreciate everyone voting for me. I feel really honored and flattered that I was chosen as an officer of a class at not just any college, but at MIT," Smith said.

Eiman Faramarzalian '06 and



SANDRA YU

Maithilee Kunda '06 casts her vote for freshman elections in Lobby 10 on Tuesday. A total of 472 freshmen voted: 443 online and 29 on paper.

Zachary M. Skolnik '06 won the publicity coordinator positions. They met each other in the Freshman Leadership Program, a freshman pre-orientation program, and decided to run for the position because they want "to do something for the school," Faramarzalian said. "Eiman and Zack will do the best job we can. You know, nothing going on at MIT is 'EZ' [easy]."

The new social chairs will be Jameel S. Khalfan '06 and Kimberly

W. Wu '06. They met each other in their dormitory and decided to run for the social chair positions "to make sure we have a very entertaining freshman year," Khalfan said.

"We're going to make this a wonderful year," Wu said, in response to the election results. Khalfan added, "I feel good. Now, let's party!"

**Election method contentious**

This year 472 of the fewer than

1,000 freshmen voted in the election, compared to 276 last year. The majority of the votes, 443, were cast online, rather than by paper ballot.

"It's kind of cool that so many freshmen got involved with the election," said Tanzeer S. Khan '06, a candidate for president.

However, the election also called attention to the potentially contentious preferential voting system. The system allows voters to rank their preferences of candidates for each position. When votes are counted, the votes for the person with the fewest are redistributed until someone has a majority. As a result, the candidate who receives the most first choice votes is not guaranteed to win.

Treasurer candidate Davenport received slightly more first and second choice votes, but he lost to Smith, who received 18 more votes for third choice and thus more overall votes.

"That's how things work," Smith

said.

Davenport said that "it would be better" if the voting system was different. "Everyone [should] just get one vote."

**Candidates review strategies**

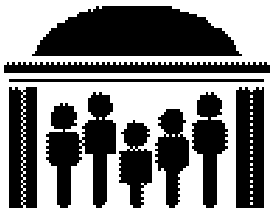
Many of the newly-elected officials attributed their victories to active campaigning. "I tried to meet people and see them in person," Hoff said. "People respect it."

"We had a catchy model and well-organized platform," Faramarzalian said.

The other candidates expressed regret over their campaigns.

"I should have campaigned more," Khan said. Still, he said is happy with the results of the election and would like to be involved with student government in other ways.

The UA election commission will have an election feedback meeting on Oct. 10 to discuss ways to improve future elections.



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# Women’s Soccer Team Defeats Clark Cougars With Goal in Overtime

By Melissa Hart  
*TEAM COACH*

This past Saturday, the women’s varsity soccer team improved to 5–2 with an exciting overtime win against conference opponent Clark University.

The game started off well when rookie Diana K. Sterk ’06, in the first start of her college career, scored off of a goalkeeper rebound from a shot by Shirley Chan ’04 in the opening five minutes of the game.

Though MIT dominated play in the first half, Clark caught the Engineers off-guard in the 14th minute when they converted a long throw, deep in MIT’s end, into a goal, evening the score. MIT scored once again in the 28th minute when team’s leading scorer, Chan, headed in a perfectly-placed corner kick from senior captain Rebecca E. Clinton.

In the second half, the Cougars came out determined to defend their home turf and evened the score early on, off of yet another long throw-in deep in Engineer territory. Play continued and despite numerous opportunities for MIT, both teams were scoreless for the remain-

der of regulation time. The game entered the two 10-minute overtime periods and MIT put constant pressure on the Clark goal. Sterk came to the rescue when she collected a cross from Chan, beat a defender, and scored the “Golden Goal” for the MIT victory. Goalkeeper Connie Yang made six saves for the Engineers.

## MIT falls to Bridgewater

Earlier in the week, MIT dropped its second game to a state school when they were beaten by a tenacious Bridgewater State College team. The Bridgewater squad was determined to avenge their loss to the Engineers last season.

Though MIT clearly had possession of the ball a fair amount more than Bridgewater, Bridgewater was hungrier in the goal area and scored in the first 10 minutes of the second half and then again in the last five minutes of the game to gain the 2–0 victory.

This Saturday the team returns home to MIT after six consecutive road games to face conference nemesis Springfield College, at 10 a.m., for the first of five straight home games.

# Spectators Encouraged

Domecoming, from Page 24

teams have away games this weekend, but its a good start,” Alberi said.

The two games will take place at Steinbrenner stadium, which “usually has a couple people cheering,” Alberi said.

“Hopefully we’ll get more fans for the game than we normally do,” said Monica F. Morrison ’04, a soccer player.

“It would be really great since Springfield is one of our biggest rivals,” Morrison said. “They’ve beaten us for the past few years, but

we have a lot of good freshmen.” “Hopefully the game will be really exciting, and maybe the people who just came for the food will realize how scintillating a good soccer match can be,” Morrison said. The afternoon football game also gives the men’s football team the opportunity to encourage student interest. This year marks MIT football’s 25th year, and Saturday’s allows the team the chance to improve its current 2–2 record. “We have new uniforms this year and they’re see-through. Maybe that will help draw more spectators,” Morrison said.

# Doubles Teams Battle in Late Night Semifinal Matches

Tennis, from Page 24

number two player Scott Levy 6–2, 6–1, and teammate Augustyn 4–6, 6–2, 7–5.

## Russians take doubles title

Both semifinal doubles matches turned into three set marathons that kept coaches, players and spectators in the indoor tennis courts until midnight Saturday night.

MIT number two doubles team Augustyn and Tindell defeated William College’s number one team

of Murray and Kivitz 6–4, 4–2, 6–2. The highlight of the match was Tindell serving out the match 5–4 in the third set decisively with two aces and two service winners in the final game.

In the other semifinal match, fourth seed Kolesnikov and Pereverzev defeated William College’s number two team of D. Murry and Mackenzie. Kolesnikov and Pereverzev served big in the bubble and relentless attached the net to sweep the second and third set.

“It was our toughest match,” said

# Women’s X-Country Comes Out on Top at Mt. Holyoke

By Marissa Yates  
*TEAM MEMBER*

The women’s cross country team was victorious Saturday on Mt. Holyoke’s scenic course. The team defended their first place poll standing in the NEWMAC conference by defeating Mt. Holyoke, Smith, and Coast Guard. MIT came in with 36 points, ahead of Holyoke’s 45, Coast Guard’s 57, and Smith’s 87.

The Engineers began the race conservatively and consistently moved forward in the field of 80 runners. Julia C. Espel ’05 and Martha W. Buckley ’04 finished two seconds apart, claiming first and second places with times of 18:42 and 18:44, respectively.

The Engineers’ goal of holding back the first mile proved profitable,

as many runners negative split each mile and a few turned in peak performances. Holyoke’s course, though not the fastest the team will see this year, was shorter than the normal distance of 3.1 miles (5k) by 50 meters. On Saturday, the lakeside path was filled with mud puddles and potholes.

Following the example set by the lead runners, the next group of MIT women ran the race in a tight pack. Freshman Valerie Y. Kuo ’06 led the pack with an eighth place finish, closely followed by Veronica A. Andrews ’05, Katie R. Huffman ’04, and Lynn K. Kamimoto ’05. The pack came in between 19:55 and 20:08, claiming 8th, 12th, 13th, and 15th for MIT.

Senior Crystal A. Russell ’03 led the next pack of MIT racers, including rookies Kelly Kuo ’06 and Becky R. Romatoski ’06, senior captain Marissa L. Yates ’03, and alum-

na Mealani Nakamura. This pack came in between 20:46 and 21:08.

The team’s depth was evident as the Engineers didn’t finish later than 61st in the large field, and all runners were in under 23:15. According to Coach Paul Slovenski, the team’s goal was to “try hard to pack attack by working together.” Almost every team member finished within two places of another Engineer. Other packs included Andrea J. Dooley ’06, Nancy J. Benedetti ’05, Julie Y. Tse ’05, and Jennifer A. La’O ’05, followed by Elizabeth R. Walker ’06, Stephanie A. Claussen ’05, and Alisa P. Lehman ’05. Rounding off the team’s strong finish were Elizabeth A. Witham ’05, Jasmin Moghbeli ’05, and Sarah E. Sheppard ’06.

This Saturday, the team will be racing on its home course in Franklin Park against Springfield College.

# Ultimate Takes 4th at Coffee Cup

## MIT Women’s Team Dominates in Pool Play, Falls to Seasoned Veterans

By Angela Tong  
*TEAM MEMBER*

The MIT Women’s Ultimate Team (sMITe) took fourth place last weekend at Yale’s Coffee Cup.

Taking mostly rookies to their first tournament of the year, sMITe dominated in pool play and only lost to teams of veteran college players.

## Wombats, Quasars fall to sMITe

The first pool play game was against the Wombats from Skidmore. After starting the game late, Genevieve G. Ricart ’06 took charge immediately with a goal thrown and two goals caught. The defensive effort was led by Yelena Gorlina ’06, who had three blocks. In the end, sMITe outscored the Wombats 5–3.

In the next game against the Harvard Quasars, the wind picked up. As a result, there were many

turnovers and the points were long. sMITe’s endurance paid off, though, as Shuang You ’06 both threw and caught a goal as well as made a block. Dominating the defense and shutting down Harvard’s offensive game, Christina R. Keenan ’03, Meryl R. Del Rosario ’05, and Lily Huang ’06 together totaled eight blocks. To win the game and the pool, Lori A. Eich ’03 threw the perfect huck into the end zone.

## Later games more difficult

sMITe played the Wellesley Whiptails in the quarterfinals. Although the Whiptails played some good offense, Sarah Kamal G and Lucy R. Mendel ’06 helped to thwart Wellesley’s attack by making seven huge blocks. The sMITe offense, in turn, was led by Samantha E. Bennett ’06, who threw two goals and caught two, and Mendel, who also displayed offensive ability by throwing three goals. The

team’s overall excellent play contributed to the 8–4 victory over the Whiptails.

sMITe met Dartmouth in the semifinals. This was the hardest game yet. Dartmouth was more organized overall had the throws and cuts to go with it. sMITe put up a good fight, though, as Eich threw two goals and Darlene E. Ferranti ’06 caught one. There was evidence that sMITe started to really gel in the semifinal match as they shredded the zone defense that Dartmouth tried to play. Despite a solid sMITe effort, Dartmouth ended up on top 9–4.

In the consolation game, sMITe faced Yale A, composed of all the Yale players who went to nationals last year. The new sMITe team tried their best as Angela Tong ’05 made four blocks, but Yale was too strong and too experienced and shut sMITe out 13–0 to take third place, leaving sMITe to take fourth.

# MIT Volleyball Defeats WPI After Weekend Frustration

Volleyball, from Page 24

comfortable and could not seem to find their usual game throughout, and Gordon gained more and more confidence as the match wore on. After winning the tournament in 2001, the Engineers would only take home second place this year.

## Freshmen seal WPI win

On Tuesday night, however, the team would take out their frustration on a hapless WPI squad. The Engineers got back on track, beating their conference foes in the first two games 30–19, 30–14. Lauren E. Frick ’03 was the offensive leader with seven kills, as Jacklyn Y. Wang ’06 anchored the defense with 10 digs. The third game saw the Engineers use a lineup consisting of only freshmen players for the entire game. It was a vision of things to come, as they dominated WPI 30–16 to win the match in a clean sweep. Krystle C. Scott ’06 was key in t0he game, putting three kills to the floor and coming up with a huge block late in the game.

The Engineers are currently 16–2 overall and 4–0 in their conference. The team is ranked #2 in the New England Region. Their next home match is Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. in DuPont Gymnasium against Springfield College.



AARON D. MIHALIK—THE TECH

Vitaliy Pereverzev ’05 returns a shot during the New England Regional Intercollegiate Tennis Association Men’s Singles Championship on Sunday. Pereverzev lost to teammate Evan W. Tindell ’06 in the singles finals, but won the doubles championship with Andrew V. Kolesnikov ’03.



SPORTS

Tennis Sweeps New England Tournament

After Taking New England Regional Finals, Engineers Head for National Championship

By Aaron D. Mihalik  
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Men's tennis made history last weekend at the New England Regional Division III Championships, taking the top two spots in the singles and doubles tournaments. Three MIT players will move on to compete in the National Championships later this month.

Evan W. Tindell '06 won the singles finals match against teammate Vitaliy Pereverzev '05 6-2, 6-4. Pereverzev and Andrew V. Kolesnikov '03 defeated Tindell and Jeffrey P. Augustyn '03 in the doubles finals match 6-0, 6-2.

The tournament is the only New England Division III tournament and consisted of 48 players for singles and 26 doubles teams from 19 schools. MIT had five singles and two doubles teams compete in the tournament.

Freshman Tindell takes singles

Tindell, the highest ranked junior tennis player to come to MIT and seeded 12th in the singles tournament, worked his way through the tournament defeating higher seeded players.

In the round of 16, Tindell upset the number one seeded player Nathan Edmunds from Middlebury 6-3, 6-4. In the following round Tindell upset Bowdin's number two player Matthew Burke 6-4, 6-3.

In the semifinals match, the closest match of the tournament and the only match in which Tindell lost a set, Tindell dropped the first set but grabbed a quick 5-1 in the second set to Bates College's Will Boe-Weigaard. Tindell won the second set in a tiebreaker and went on to win the third set.

"It was a really fiercely contested match," said men's tennis coach Jeffrey Hamilton. "It was the match of the tournament."

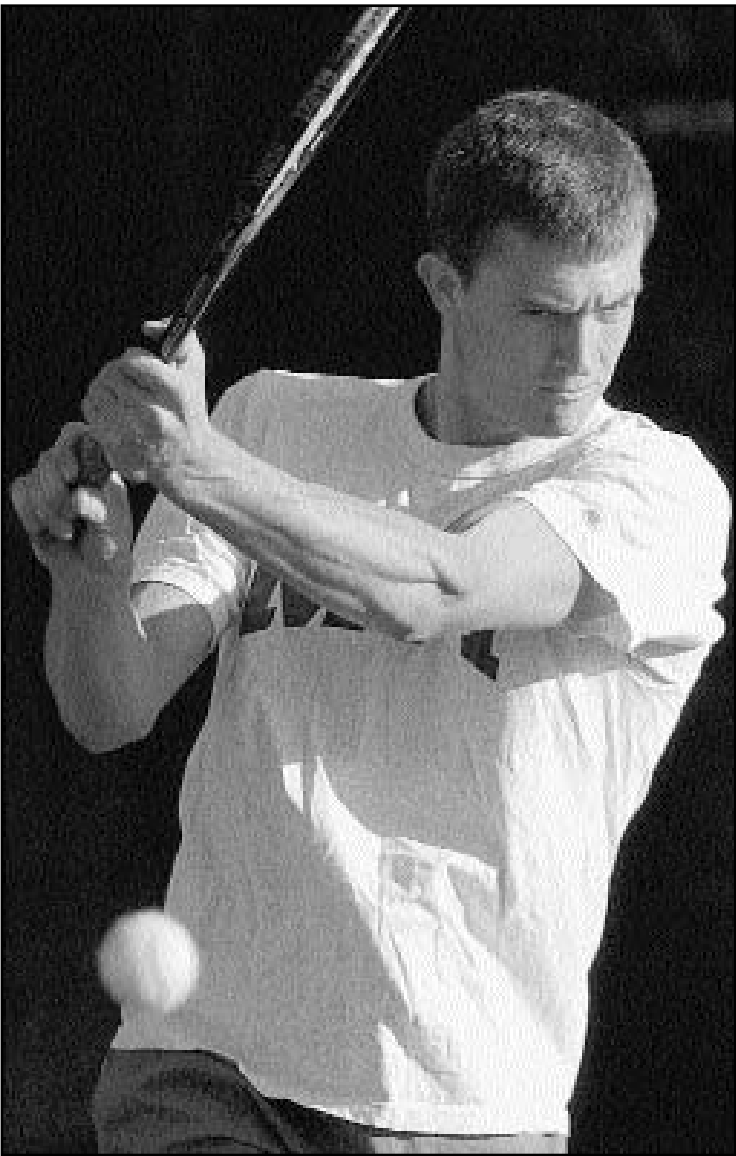
Tindell started the match slowly and made a number of groundstroke errors while Boe-Weigaard attacked and forced Tindell into a several errors. In the second set, Tindell got off to a strong 5-1 lead, but Bow-Weigaard fought back to even the score 6-6. The turning point in the match was when Tindell won a decisive tie breaker 7-1 to close out the second set.

Tindell continued the forceful attack into the third set and held on to win 6-4, serving out the match.

Tindell went on to defeat teammate Pereverzev in the finals 6-2, 6-4.

"Evan is a great player," Pereverzev said. "I didn't think well enough to do the kind of game that I needed to play to beat him. I basically played his game."

Pereverzev, seeded 14th in the tournament, made a similar climb to the top by defeating Trinity's



AARON D. MIHALIK—THE TECH  
Andrew V. Kolesnikov '03 returns a backhand during the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Men's Doubles Championship on Sunday.

Gordon College Defeats Engineers

By Paul Dill  
TEAM COACH

It was a bittersweet week for the women's varsity volleyball team, as they hit a high mark with a #23 national ranking, but suffered their first loss in their last 16 matches. The Engineers went 3-1 this past weekend as they pushed their way through the Amherst College Tournament all the way to the finals before losing a tough match to the #2 regionally ranked Gordon College team.

MIT takes 2nd place in tourney

The weekend started on a high note as the team beat up on a strong Wesleyan College team 3-0 (30-28, 30-24, 30-16). Nydia M. Clayton '04 led the offense with 16 kills, while Austin Zimmerman '06 added 36 assists and Joy N. Hart '06 added 20 digs.

It was more of the same as the Engineers rolled right over Westfield State College 3-0 (30-13, 30-21, 30-8). Caroline D. Jordan '06 was key in this match with eight kills, while Jenny C. Alexander '06 dished out 26 assists.

In the semifinals, MIT faced Middlebury College and had a bit of a wake-up call. Middlebury caught the Engineers napping in the first game and took advantage to win 30-28. Unfortunately for the Panthers, the Engineers did not take kindly to that, and swept them in the next three games 30-22, 30-19, 30-25 to win the match 3-1. It was Clayton again who took charge with 15 kills, and Jill M. Kaup '03 served up eight aces.

In the finals, the Engineers faced a strong Gordon College team looking for the upset. They came out of the gates a team possessed. This time, the Engineers did not have the answer and saw their 15-match win streak come to an end. MIT never looked

UA Committee Attempts to Foster School Spirit

By Jennifer DeBoer  
SPORTS EDITOR

This Saturday, in conjunction with the Institute's "Fall Festival"/"Domecoming" athletic events, the Undergraduate Association Athletics Committee will be sponsoring two study breaks: one during the women's soccer game at 10:30 a.m. against Springfield, and one during the 2 p.m. football game against Curry College.

The study breaks are part of the Athletics Committee's ongoing

efforts to foster school spirit.

"One of our main goals this year is to promote campus-wide spirit and encourage student support for varsity athletes," said Committee Chair Kirsten M. Alberi '03.

"We'd like to convince people that it's fun to go to games and cheer for your team," Alberi said.

The committee, as part of revived effort to encourage student spectator participation in athletic events, decided that Homecoming would be a key event at which they

would implement their plans for the upcoming year.

"We're kind of apathetic here, but people respond well to study breaks and free food," Alberi said.

Bagels and donuts will be offered at the morning soccer game "to wake people up," Alberi said. The football game later in the day will have pizza and chips.

This weekend's games coincide with Fall Festival weekend, formerly know as "Domecoming." While the homecoming football game was

formerly an integral part of "Domecoming" weekend, this year, publicity cites only the social events sponsored by living groups as part of the festival.

The Athletics Committee hopes that its own advertising will promote attendance.

Arousing student interest as sports spectators "is the committee's biggest goal this year," Alberi said. "Unfortunately, a lot of the

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UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, Oct. 5

Football vs. Curry College, 2 p.m.

Men's and Women's Swimming — Alumni Meet, noon

Women's Cross Country vs. Springfield, 1:30 p.m.

Women's Soccer vs. Springfield, 10:30 a.m.

Women's Tennis vs. WPI, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 8

Women's Soccer vs. Babson, 4 p.m.

Women's Volleyball vs. Springfield, 7 p.m.



The Football Fanatic

By O.B. Usmen  
COLUMNIST

Week four was a rough one for four of the undefeated programs in the NFL. Miami took their perfect record and tough defense to Kansas City, only to lose 48-30. The Chiefs' offense proved too much even for Miami's defense, scoring more points than Miami's three previous opponents combined.

Carolina kept with Green Bay until the last play of the game, a missed field goal by newly-signed kicker, Shayne Graham. With the Panthers trailing 17-14 and on their own five-yard line, Graham, Carolina's third kicker in as many weeks, missed a 24-yard attempt to give Carolina their first loss.

Denver didn't look like a 3-0 team Monday night, losing to the lowly Ravens 34-23. Baltimore scored 31 points in the second quarter, the last touchdown coming on the longest play in NFL history. In the final seconds of the first half, Denver kicker, Jason Elam, came up short on a 57-yard field goal. Raven's CB, Chris McAlister, fielded the ball and returned it 108 yards for a touchdown, sprung by a devastating block by Ray Lewis.

The Patriots were the fourth team to fall from the ranks of the undefeated. San Diego's Chargers defeated New England 21-14 to maintain their own perfect record, and looked like they might actually be as good as their

record suggests.

Chargers are the team to beat

Just two years ago San Diego was the worst team in the NFL, with a 1-15 record. They needed so much help, they traded away the first pick in the draft. Well, that move sparked a turnaround that has San Diego looking like a playoff-caliber team. In that draft, San Diego passed on Michael Vick to get RB LaDainian Tomlinson and QB Drew Brees.

Last year, the focus was on building a strong defense with free agent pickups DE Marcellus Wiley and CB Ryan McNeil. As the pieces start to come together this year, the Chargers look like a force to be reckoned with.

With Marty Schottenheimer at the reins, the team's dedication to defense was to be expected. Junior Seau is still the heart of the defense which leads the AFC in points allowed (9.5 per game), and yards allowed (264 per game). In addition to Seau and Wiley, Ben Leber, their third round pick this year, has looked solid leading the team with four sacks and two forced fumbles.

While the defense dictates the tempo of the game, Brees and Tomlinson do their part fitting in perfectly with Schottenheimer's ball control system. Tomlinson has emerged as an elite running back this year, leading the NFL in rushing yards, and Brees is a heady quarterback that makes few mistakes and has found his favorite target in Curtis Conway. Still, with two rookies starting on the offensive line, a second year quarterback, and a schedule that includes two games against Oakland and Denver, San Diego might struggle to make the playoffs. Beating

New England was impressive, but can do they do it again against Denver this week?

The Greatest Show in Missouri?

Kansas City looks like what St. Louis was supposed to be. They have an offense that scores at will, a running back that leads the league in scoring and is a threat both running and catching the ball, and a defense that can't stop anyone. Now, St. Louis looks washed up at 0-4 and Kansas City is developing into an extremely dangerous team.

No one knows the old Rams system better than Chiefs head coach, Dick Vermeil, who retired from football after winning the Super Bowl with the Rams, only to return a year later to coach the Chiefs. With him, he brought an explosive offensive scheme. In four games Kansas City has scored more points than any other team in the NFL (142) and is second in total offense. Trent Green is heating up, throwing for 328 yards and five touchdowns in the win over Miami. Tony Gonzales is hands-down the best TE in the league, and Priest Holmes continues to dominate ranking third in the NFL in rushing and first in touchdowns, with eight. There's no question the Chiefs have a potent offense, but their weak defense will keep them from getting to the playoffs, especially since they play in the AFC West with San Diego, Denver, and Oakland.

*Fantasy Pick of the Week: Donald Driver, WR for Green Bay Packers. With Terry Glenn battling post-concussion syndrome, Driver has been Brett Favre's go-to receiver.*